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No. 7785.—Vol. L. *SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 1, 1890.* *Price One Penny.*

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

DRURY LANE. (The National Theatre.)
EVERY EVENING, at 7.15, and EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, and SATURDAY at 1.30, AUGUSTUS HARRIS'S Pantomime, JACK AND THE BEANSTALK, produced on a scale of splendour surpassing its predecessors, the stalwarts offered to the public by Mr. Augustus Harris in previous years, and performed by a Company of Comedians each of whom is an acknowledged favourite in himself—Messrs. Dan Lyne, Herbert Campbell, Lenn, jun., Griffiths Brothers, Conquest, jun., Leopold Brothers, Payne, (Clown), and Campbell; Misses. Vernon, Faucelle, Jones, Clay, and Duggan. Box-office open from 10 a.m all day. LAST THREE WEEKS.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A MAN'S SHADOW, by Sydney Grundy. Mr. TREE as LAROQUE and LIVERSAN. Messrs. Fernandez, Kemble, C. Collette, E. M. Robson, Allan, Hargreaves, Percy, and Harrison; Mesdames Calhaem, Miss Millward, Miss Terry, Miss Norreys, and Mrs. Tree. AT 7.45, GOOD FOR NOTHING: Miss Norreys. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open 10 till 5. Tel. Call, continental, 80, 6d. Gallery, 1s.
MATINEE of A MAN'S SHADOW TO-DAY (Saturday) and SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.30.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Irving.)
THE DEAD HEART. A Story of the French Revolution. TO-NIGHT at Eight (which will be closed). Mr. Henry Irving, Mr. Bancroft, Mr. Sidney, Mr. Richson; Miss Phillips and Miss Ellen Terry. Box office Open Hard open daily 10 to 5. Seats can also be booked by letter or telegram. Carriages, 10.55.—LYCEUM.

CRITERION THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. C. Wyndham.)
TO-DAY, at 2.30 and 8.30, OUR BOYS. Mr. Harold James, Mr. Leonard Boyne, Mr. Arthur Playfair, Mr. R. W. Cecil, Mr. Sidney Harcourt, Mr. Bentley, Mr. F. Thorne, E. Vining. Proceeds (to-night) for benefit of Mr. Sidney Harcourt. SWEETHEART, GOODBYE. Mesdames Ada Rehan, H. Sidney, G. Stanton, L. Chapuy; Mr. Beerbohm Tree, L. Brunton, E. Vining. Doors open at 7.25. N.B.—MATINEE of OUR BOYS TO-MORROW (Saturday), at 2.30. Doors open at 2. Carriages at 5.

GAIETY THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT, at 8 punctually, RUY BLAS AND THE BLASE ROUE. Miss Ellen Farren, Miss Nellie Bland, Miss Sylvia Grey, Miss Violet Cameron, Miss Bessie Hannay, and Miss Lenry Linda; Mr. Fred. Leslie, Mr. Fred. Storey, Mr. Dalton Somers. Doors open at 7.30.

TERRY'S THEATRE.
(Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Edward Terry.)
(Manageress, Mrs. Grahame.)
TO-DAY at 3 and 9, NEW LAMPS FOR OLD. Messrs. W. S. Penley, Bernard Gould, W. Lestocq, and E. Kerr; Mesdames Cissy Grahame, Hoskins, and Gertrude Kingston. At 8.15 THE PARTING OF THE WAYS. Mesdames M. A. Gifford, Helen Leyton, Rose Hunting, Owen Aske, and J. Nelson. Doors open at 8. Carriages at 11. Box Office open 10 till 5. Acting Manager, Mr. H. J. Beckwell.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.
TO-DAY at 3, and TO-NIGHT at 8, THE BUNGALOW, by Fred Horner. The greatest success of modern times. Records which will never be broken. Millions of admirers. At 2.15 and 8.15 INDIA. Doors open at 7.45. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2.15. Doors open at 2.

ADELPHI THEATRE.
(A. and S. Gatti, Sole Lessees and Managers.)
THIS EVENING, at 8.0, LONDON DAY BY DAY. Immense success. 146th Time. Mr. George Alexander, Messrs. Martin, J. B. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, Lionel Rignold, W. L. Abingdon, Fred. Billiott, H. Bolls, H. Russell, James Lind, H. Nicholson, Eric Lewis; Mesdames Alma Murray, Mary Rorke, Kate James, Charlotte Elliott, and Clara Jecks. Doors open at 7.0. THE MARRIED BACHELOR, at 7.15.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Thomas Thorne.)
THIS EVENING, at 8, CLARISSA. Mr. Thomas Thorne, Messrs. T. B. Thalberg, Cyril Maude, Oswald Yorke, B. Webster, H. Mowbray, H. Gilmore, and Fred Horner; Miss Rosina Filippi, Mesdames Mary Collette, C. Brown, L. Beyer, F. Weymiss, Lily Hanbury, and Mary Rorke. MATINEE of CLARISSA TO-DAY (Saturday), at 2.30.

THE GLOBE THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. G. Henson.)
EVERY EVENING, at 8, Shakespeare and Goldsmith. A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, with the Mendelssohn Incidental Music; Messrs. Brookes, Maltby, Benson, Ross, Howard, and Cooper, Hardy, Wells, Phillips, Tomlinson, Wallis, Cumberland, Pavy, Jennings, Dodd, Gouldings, Townsend, Weedon Mullins, Mitchelmore. MATINEES EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2.30. N.B.—HAMLET, NEXT and EVERY THURSDAY and FRIDAY EVENINGS at 8.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.
MASTER AND MAN.
THIS EVENING, at 7.45, Henry Pettitt and George R. Sims' powerful play, MASTER AND MAN, in which will be introduced the realistic action still unrivalled for excitement. Henry Neville, J. H. Barnes, Robert Pateman, Brandon Thomas, Sidney Howard, Charles Dalton, Basset Roe, Fred Shepherd, George Barrett, A. Maynard, Frank Wyatt; Mesdames Ellen Bruce, Mary Rorke, Fanny Brandon, Townsend, Weedon Mullins, Mitchelmore. MATINEES EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2.30. N.B.—HAMLET, NEXT and EVERY THURSDAY and FRIDAY EVENINGS at 8.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Management, Mrs. Bancroft.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8, AS YOU LIKE IT. Mrs. Langtry; Messrs. M'Neil, Lea, Lamb, Archbutler, &c.; Misses. Conley, Batchley, Saqden, Everill, Talbot, Brodie, Forbes, Gay, Lewis, Cunningo, Lawford, Grover, Langham, Arnehill, Lefevre, Yorke, &c. Doors open 7.00, carriages at 11.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. Horace Sedger.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, MARJORIE. Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mdme. Arnoldi and Miss Camille d'Arville; Messrs. J. Hayden Coffin, Joseph Tapley, Henry Ashley, Frescheld, Wood, Elton Jones, T. A. Shale, A. T. Hendon, and Henry Strickhaver. Preceded at 7.30 by ALL ABROAD. Morning Performance TO-DAY and EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30. Telephone No. 5,760.

CARRICK THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. Fred Hare.)
THIS EVENING, at 8, A FAIR OF SPECTACLES. Mr. John Hare, Mr. C. Groves, Mr. B. Cathcart, Mr. S. Brough, Mr. C. Dodsworth, Mr. F. H. Kelsey, Mr. K. Hardinge, Mr. Egerton, Miss Fanny Hosford, Miss E. Jones, Miss Mary Rorke, Miss Le Thiere, and Miss Kate Rorke. At 9, THE FOUR JUST MEN. Mr. J. Forbes Robertson, Mr. S. Brough, Mr. S. Dwight; Miss Blanche Horlock and Miss Cathcart. Morning Performance TO-DAY will appear. Doors open 7.00. Box-office open from 10 to 5. Acting Manager, Mr. C. G. Compton.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.
Messrs. E. S. Willard and Jones Lancy, Lessees and Managers. Proprietor, Mr. John Lancaster.
THIS EVENING at 8, THE MIDDLEMAN.
Mr. Willard, Messrs. Wardebach, N. T. Cane, Lin Rayne, Sam Sothern, Ivon Watson, Cecil Crofton, Reginald Keith; Mesdames Maude Millett, Annie Hughes, E. H. Brooke, Annie Hill, St. Aubyn, Eva Moore, &c. Carriages, 10.30. Doors open 7.00. Box-office open 10 to 5. Acting Manager, Mr. W. H. Griffiths.—SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

LYRIC THEATRE.
(Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Henry J. Leslie.)
100th PERFORMANCE MONDAY NEXT, March 3, and EVERY EVENING, at 8.30, THE RED HUSSAR. Mesdames Marie Tempest, Birdie Irving, Maud Hillford, H. Coveney, and Florence Wilmot; Messrs Ben Davies, Alec Marsh, Lionel Rignold, J. Le Hay, Frank St. Wood, and Arthur Williams. Preceded at 7.30, by WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF. MATINEE TO-DAY and EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30. Doors open at 7.30.

COMEDY THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING, at 9 sharp, the celebrated Comedy PINK DOMINOS, adapted by James Albery, with powerful cast, including Messrs. Herbert Standing, Alfred Maltby, A. Bouchalli, &c., and C. H. Hawtrey; Mesdames Dolaney, Robertson, Cowell, Alma Stanley, and Rose Saker, preceded, at 8, by ON THE MARCH. Doors open at 7.30. Box-office open daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Telephone, 3,724.

COURT THEATRE.
(Proprietors, Mrs. John Wood and Mr. Arthur Cumberland.)
TO-NIGHT at 8, 200th performance of AUNT JACK. Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Lionel Rignold, Mr. Cyril Maude, Mr. Arthur Ayresworth, Mr. W. Phillips, Mr. F. Farrer, Mr. Powell, Mr. W. Gilmore; Miss Rosina Filippi, Miss Florence Wood, and Miss John Wood. At 9.15, MY BOY. Mr. K. Hardinge, Mr. J. Le Hay, Frank St. Wood, and Arthur Williams; Mrs. Huddon and Miss Phelps. N.B.—TWO SPECIAL MATINEES of AUNT JACK TO-DAY and SATURDAY, March 8. Doors open at 2, commence at 2.30.

AVENUE THEATRE.
(Under the Management of Mr. George Alexander.)
TO-DAY, at 2.30 and 8.15, LADY BOUNTIFUL. Messrs. Fredrick Terry, Nutcombe Gould, Benjamin Webster, George Capel, Henry Gattan and Albert Chevallier; Mesdames Rose Leclercq, Marie Linden, Mary Kingsley, Grace Huntley, Emmie Groves, Edith Desmond, and Fanny Brunell. Doors open 7.00. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, and SPECIAL MATINEE WEDNESDAY NEXT, March 5, at 2.30. Horsecars to Strand. Box-office open daily from 10 till 5.
Business Manager, Mr. R. D'Albertis.

ALHAMBRA VARIETY THEATRE.
"ASMODEUS," at 9 o'clock, and "OUR ARMY AND NAVY," at 10.50. Signorina, Fossow; Nellie, Somers, Marie, Thorgate, and Smith, and Senior De Vincent. Varieties by Phillips and Rivière, the Sisters Macdonald, Cecilia Nordmann, and the Dog "Rags," the Allens and Hendrick Troupe, Arthur Tinsley, Arthur Gorney, Marie Collins, the Eddy's Troupe, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, and JAMES FAWN. Open 7.40 until 11.30.

EMPIRE THEATRE.
Commence at 8. Ten Grand Ballets. At 9.0 THE PARIS EXHIBITION. At 10.20, A DREAM OF WEALTH, by the Ballet Company. Music by M. Lionel Wachter. Misses Palladino and Bedini de Sortis, Signor Albertieri and Signorina Nelson Cavalieri. Grand Variety Entertainment. At 10, Miss Amy Roselle and Company in THE SIEGE OF LUCKNOW, specially written for her by H. Savile Clarke, Esq. No free list.

ROYAL, Holborn.
GRAND HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.—Special engagement of Lockhart's performing Elephants, G. H. Macdermott, the popular actor and vocalist; Lydia Yeamans, queen of song; the Mansons, Liliputian musical marvels; Lizzie Macdonald, the wonderful Scotch comedienne; Brothers Griffiths, American variety artists; Ormsby and Pepper; Abe Daniels, musical clown; Dora Fielding; Arthur Tinsley; Petrot, the Eccentric Clown; Miss and Master Lavarnie, grotesque dancers; Sam Torr; Donne Hazel, soprano; Isabella; Manna, equilibrist; G. Beresford, comic; Fred Wingfield's Dogs; Ryan and Richfield; Nellie Chesmore; Ormsby and Pepper; and others.
EVENINGS at 7.30. MATINEES, 2.30. Prices of admission from 6d. to £1 1s.

THE CASE FOR A SALISBURY COMMISSION.

If the House of Commons has any shred or particle of consistency in public action, last night's debate can only have one issue: a Special Commission of three Judges will be at once appointed to inquire into the charges and allegations against Lord SALISBURY and his colleagues. As in the case of the *Times*, so in that of *Truth*, the better course would have been the appointment of a Select Committee. But in the *Truth* case, as in the *Times* case, the House has rejected the idea of a Select Committee. We have indeed had the Attorney-General's denial on behalf of himself and Lord SALISBURY of the charges, just as long ago we had Mr. PARNELL's denial. But Lord SALISBURY's denial has not carried universal conviction any more than did Mr. PARNELL'S. Only one thing, therefore, remains if precedent and consistency have any weight—namely the appointment without more ado of a SALISBURY Commission.

No candid man can possibly read last night's debate without seeing that some further inquiry is urgently needed. We cannot at all agree with Mr. JOHN MORLEY, who said that "the effect of the Attorney-General's speech would undoubtedly be to "dissipate most of the rumours" which have been current for so long. What the Attorney-General's speech did was to dispose on the one hand of the worst construction put by Mr. LABOUCHERE on his alleged facts, but to establish on the other the complete accuracy of the facts themselves. It may well be doubted, after the Attorney-General's speech, if there was any "foul conspiracy" on the part of Lord SALISBURY "and others" to defeat the ends of justice; but it is no longer open to any doubt at all that there was culpable negligence in securing those ends. The gravamen of the charges and allegations against the authorities, when stripped of the more heinous complexion given to them by Mr. LABOUCHERE, is this: that the administration of justice was impeded, in a case where highly stationed personages were concerned, by the interference of the Executive in a way which would never have occurred had the case concerned only the poor and insignificant. This is a grave charge; but unless any better defence than the Attorney-General's is producible, it is hardly possible to disbelieve it. How the blame is to be distributed, we cannot say; that is exactly one of those questions which the SALISBURY Commission would have to decide. But that somebody has blundered, that there has been culpable negligence somewhere, is as plain as a pikestaff: as anybody will admit, who will read the following bare recital of facts admitted in last night's debate:—

(1) The first statements were made on July 4. But HAMMOND was not watched; he escaped accordingly.

(2) Having escaped, he was not extradited; nor were any steps taken to procure his expulsion from Belgium, although the Belgian police offered their co-operation. The Attorney-General's defence was that extradition in HAMMOND's case was impossible, because the persons concerned were "above the protected age." What does he mean? There is no protected age in such cases, as he will see by referring to section 11 of 48 and 49 Vict., Chap. 69.

(3) Lord ARTHUR SOMERSET was also allowed to escape. The Attorney-General made a great point of the absence, for some months, of sufficient corroborative evidence against him. But all the while there was strong primâ facie evidence; yet no effective watch was kept, and a warrant was only issued when the man had fled.

4. The question of his prosecution was submitted to the Lord Chancellor and to the Prime Minister. What in the world was this for? Will it be contended for a moment that there would have been the same hesitation had the accused been plain Bill Sikes instead of Lord ARTHUR SOMERSET? The Lord Chancellor, says the Attorney-General, is an eminent criminal lawyer. Since when, we should like to know, has Lord SALISBURY attained the same eminence?

All these things are facts admitted by the Attorney-General; and we confess we find it impossible to read them in any other light than that of a desire on the part of the authorities to hush up as far as possible the discovery of crime, owing to the high position of one at least of the alleged criminals. That is a serious charge in itself; quite serious enough to explain the outer circle of imputations and innuendoes which has grown up around it. For the credit of our system of government, no less than for the honour of our public men, it is essential that the fullest inquiry should be made. There is, in short, a clear case for a SALISBURY Commission. The question is, Will the House recognise it?

Last night's proceedings, ending in the suspension of Mr. LABOUCHERE, do not make us hopeful. The present House of Commons is itself, it is clear, a respecter of persons. Lord SALISBURY was charged with having said something to Sir DIGHTON PROBYN about a warrant against Lord ARTHUR SOMERSET. Mr. LABOUCHERE made his charge on the authority of a high personage, whose name he handed across to the Attorney-General. The Attorney-General preferred to keep the name secret, and declared that Lord SALISBURY "denied the allegation about the warrant," because he wrote in a letter, "I said nothing whatever about the *date of the issue of the* warrant." Mr. LABOUCHERE "did not believe Lord SALISBURY." Whereupon Mr. COURTNEY "named," and the House expelled him. Therein Mr. COURTNEY and the House acted unfairly and irregularly. Irregularly, because they introduced an unprecedented restriction on liberty of debate; unfairly, because Lord SALISBURY's well-known and peculiar view as to the use of words was a *primâ facie* justification. The Prime Minister has never been ashamed of misleading Parliament, as every one knows who remembers his unblushing denial of the SALISBURY-SCHOUVALOFF agreement. We quote the famous question and answer, for they bear very directly on the present matter:—

EARL GREY: I wish to ask the noble Marquis, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, whether there is *any truth* in the statement which appeared in the *Globe* last Friday as to the terms agreed upon between this country and Russia?

THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY: The statement to which the noble Earl refers, and other statements that I have seen, are wholly unauthentic, and are not deserving of the confidence of your lordships' House.

Lord SALISBURY never apologized for that "Salisbury." On the contrary, he rather gloried in it, and justified it. Lord SALISBURY's peculiarities in this matter of verbal accuracy not only justified Mr. LABOUCHERE, but strengthen the case for a SALISBURY Commission to inquire into the real truth of charges which cannot be left where they are without damage to the fair fame of English Justice.

SATURDAY AFTERNOONS,

IX.—AN AFTERNOON IN MARCH AT KEW.

THE biting east winds of the past week or so do not suggest much pleasure in the garden. But though we are too early by several weeks for the burst of plant growth, there is plenty at Kew now to gratify the visitor who devotes an afternoon to a walk through the shrubberies and houses.

Starting with the Winter Garden, an enormous house near the Pagoda, we approach a magnificent avenue of grand old deodars, we find in blossom huge bushes of camellias of all kinds, from the tiny rose-flowered species (*C. rosæflora*) with blooms no larger than a shilling, to the king of all camellias, *C. reticulata*. The flowers of this are totally unlike the camellia of the florist, resembling rather the great Moutan Paeonies, coloured bright rose red, and measuring nine inches across. The tea-plant, also a camellia (*C. Thea*) may be seen here, and near it another (*C. Sasanqua*), whose tiny flowers are mixed by the Chinese with tea to give it a perfume.

Beautiful feathery yellow-flowered acacias, tree-like in dimensions, and Himalayan rhododendrons of many kinds are either in flower or full of fat buds of great promise, for these plants are a special feature of the winter garden. The visitor should not leave without going into the gallery and viewing from thence the gigantic tree-ferns, palms, &c., the dimensions and grandeur of which are best seen from above.

On the way to the Palm House we pass several large beds of Mezereum Daphne, now attractively laden with countless clusters of purple flowers. The great palms and cycads are always worth looking at, the Kew collection of these plants being the finest in the world. The most noteworthy flower in this house is that of a tree, called *Brownea grandiceps*, the flowers of which are as large as a child's head and coloured scarlet. The coffee tree may be seen here too, now bearing a crop of its bright red berries or "cherries," among the dark green laurel leaves. Those interested in plants of economic importance will find in this house good examples of the cocoa-nut, wine, and sago palms, of the cocoa tree, yqas tree, &c. Passing the lake between the Palm House and No. 1 Museum we are certain to find a crowd of visitors intently watching the

LITERARY NOTES, NEWS, AND ECHOES.

Was Browning a Jew? This question, which was asked, perhaps on somewhat insufficient grounds, at the time of the poet's death, has now been set at rest by Dr. Furnivall. He has been making minute researches into the poet's ancestry, "and the result is," he says, "that there is no ground for supposing the presence of any Jewish blood in the poet's veins. On the contrary, on July 4, 1757, Thomas Browning, the poet's great-grandfather, had his fourth son christened 'Christian.'" The family held for some generations, it seems, a noted country inn, and Dr. Furnivall concludes his researches thus:—

We may, then, dismiss the Jewish notion, and hold our poet a genuine Anglo-Saxon, sprung from one of the Brownings, the followers of a certain Brun. The family may have been working-men or yeomen before we hear of the innkeeper Robert I., who had a daughter Elizabeth in 1719. Our poet, Robert V., came from that middle-class to which we owe Chaucer, Spenser, Shakespeare, Milton, and almost all that is best in England.

* * * * *

The poet, by the way may have inherited many of his qualities from his father, who (we are told) was "a great favourite, a very good fellow, and an excellent draughtsman after the fashion of Rowlandson. Some of his drawings are still in the hands of old friends of his at the bank. He was also a bit of a poet. He was a chapel man, and frequented the chapel of one George Clayton in the Borough."

* * * * *

Mr. George Curzon, who has just returned from five months' travel in Persia, will, I understand, publish the result of his observations in book form. The letters which he has contributed to the *Times* on "Persia and the Persian Question" will form the backbone of the book, but Mr. Curzon has brought with him a large number of photographs, which he will doubtless use in illustrating his pages.

* * * * *

Messrs. Putnam and Co. have now in the press a reprint of a work which appeared several years ago, entitled "The Diothas; or, A Far Look Ahead." It is a novel of the "Looking Backward" type, although it is not written on Socialist lines. In his preface the author says that the book is "such a forecast of the future of our race as may be inferred from present conditions and tendencies." Mr. Isaac Thiusen, as the author calls himself, has renamed his book "Looking Forward."

* * * * *

Messrs. Sotheby and Co. will next week sell by auction a large number of books, which will be of particular interest to book-lovers—namely, a portion of the library of Mr. William Bell Scott, the well-known artist, poet, and critic. The list of books for sale includes presentation and signed copies from most of the distinguished authors of the last fifty years—from Leigh Hunt down to Rossetti and Swinburne. The catalogue also contains first editions of Shakspeare, Ben Jonson, Milton, Sterne, Gray, Keats, Shelley, and Coleridge. Mr. Scott was an Edinburgh man, and has the original editions of Burns; and, as a resident for many years at Newcastle, he has a first edition of Bewick's "Birds."

* * *

I regret to learn of the death, a few days ago, of M. Ernest Chesneau, the eminent French critic, who did so much to promote the appreciation of English art in his country. M. Chesneau's "English School of Painting" was, in its English edition, prefaced by Mr. Ruskin, who both then and in his Oxford lectures spoke very highly of the French critic's artistic judgment. "My confidence," said Mr. Ruskin, "in his power of analyzing the characters of English art least known in France is sufficiently proved by my having commissioned him to write a life of Turner, preferred to a history of previous landscape; to which I believe my own revision will have little to add in order to make it a just and sufficient record of my beloved Master." Has this commission been executed?

* * *

Forthcoming:—Mr. William Sharp's "Life of Robert Browning," in the "Great Writers Series," at the end of this month (Walter Scott).—Three new volumes in the "Badminton Library"—namely, "Mountaineering," by Douglas Freshfield; "Big Game Shooting," by C. Phillipp-Wolley, &c., and "Coursing and Falconry," by G. Lascelles, &c., all in preparation (Longmans).—Mr. Rider Haggard's new novel, "Beatrice," in May (Longmans).—Miss Mathilde Blind's translation of "The Journal of Marie Bashkirtseff," in a few days (Cassell).—"Among the Selkirk Glaciers," a record of mountaineering in British Columbia, by the Rev. W. S. Green, immediately (Macmillan).—A work on Birds' Nests, by R. Kearton, with sixteen coloured plates, in a few days (Cassell).

* * *

Odds and Ends:—The best publication on the Forth Bridge is the "special" issued to-day by *Industries*—containing a very large number of "process" pictures, portraits, and maps. It is a most complete and interesting "extra."—The name of the author who writes under the *nom de plume* of "Sheldon Clarke" is Miss B. May, of Plymouth. The *Army and Navy Gazette* issues this week as a supplement another of its "Military Types"—a coloured picture, well rendered, of the 17th Lancers. These military types should make a popular picture-book some day.—The works of Mr. Samuel Butler, author of "Erewhon," will in future be published by Messrs. Longmans.—A pension of £100 a year from the Civil List has been given to the widow of the Rev. Dr. Edwin Hatch.

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antics of a fine pelican, a good-natured docile old fellow, and very popular with the juveniles. Cormorants, swans with white bodies and black necks, and many other beautiful and rare waterfowl, are also here.

Looking eastward across the pond the eye rests on a sloping lawn, thickly studded with thousands upon thousands of yellow crocuses. They are naturalized here, as also are the myriads of purple, blue, and white kinds, which greet the visitor entering by the Cumberland-gate. This is the wild garden, the home of daffodils, snowdrops, primroses, anemones, and Lenten lilies. In a few weeks the crocuses will have gone and their places be filled by "a waving sea of daffodils." Several hundred thousand bulbs of these plants have lately been presented to Kew by Lady William Godolphin Osborne, whose son collected the whole of them in Biarritz. Many of these are rare and choice kinds.

The Rock-garden has scarcely yet doffed its winter dress, though there are some pretty masses of Lenten lilies, snowflake, winter aconite, anemone, and blue squill peeping up from among the stones. On the north side of the Herbaceous Garden will be found a greenhouse filled with alpines and other plants, whose flowers are too delicate to reach perfection in the open air. Here they are charming, among them being choice narcissi, hepaticas, saxifrages, primulas, millas, and such plants, the whole forming a delightful picture of spring flowers.

The walks which lead to the groups of greenhouses are skirted by various little beds, which are filled with effective plants, such as the Siberian nut with its bright red-purple bark thrown into prominent relief by a yellow carpet of aconite. Also Heather in full bloom and even Rhododendrons, their crimson flowerheads already conspicuous amongst the masses of these plants, whose countless numbers of plump buds promise a blaze of bloom by and bye. Beds covered with a blanket of brown cocoa-nut fibre are already thick with the budding growths of hyacinths, tulips, lilies, &c.

Before leaving the outdoor departments we may note that a very marked improvement has been made in the grouping of the trees and shrubs, and opening up of vistas and striking features which were previously hidden from view. There are abundant evidences of a taste for good landscape effect in this direction. The hardy fernery, made for the reception of the Carbonnel collection, perhaps the richest in varieties of British ferns of any known, is attractive even in the winter, the brown tufts of fronds amongst the moss-covered stones having a really picturesque effect.

The Ferneries are always interesting, and although ferns look their worst in the first three months of the year, the collections of hare's-foot, maiden-hair, gold and silver, Tartarean-lamb, hart's-tongue, and stag's-horn species are worth more than passing notice. At Kew there is not one, but a dozen or more fragrant ferns, known and grown here in abundance for years. Leader-writers who have gone crazy over the hay-scented fern recently "discovered" at Regent's Park, please note. The magnificent Cooper-Forster collection of filmy-ferns never looked so well. Fern connoisseurs will find the *Trichomanes*, *Hymenophyllum*, and *Todea* represented by perfect examples. How beautiful they are, their leaves so delicate and filmy that one is almost afraid to breathe on them! Many of them are thickly covered with beads of water like dew, and we learn that the presence of these beads is a sure indication of good health in the plant. A few yards from this fernery is the Conservatory, emphatically the house of the multitude. Here congregate the many who visit Kew partly for the sake of a walk and partly to see popular garden flowers. The wealth of flower now is exceptional for the time of year. There are still Poinsettias with broad flat heads of cardinal leaves, generally mistaken for flowers; roses, bright, beautiful, and fragrant; azaleas, perfect pyramids of brilliant colours; daffodils, hyacinths, both Cape and Oriental tulips, scarlet anemones, the glory of the Riviera at this time of year: these are abundant and charming to look upon. Little bushes covered with queer-looking flowers with equally queer names—some from Australia, some African; and there are even rhododendrons from Java, beautiful little shrubs with trumpet-shaped scarlet or orange flowers not a bit like the hardy "rosydandrun" of the every-day garden. Huge flowers of Star-lilies (*Hippeastrum*), massive bunches of *Clivea* from Africa, the latest pets of the florists, and still the list of good things in the house is not exhausted.

On the way to the orchids we pass a large group of an Indian arum (*Ariæma*) with large black-purple striped flowers, scoop-shaped, with a flap-like top, and a blackish hair-like tail, fully 2 ft. long, hanging down to the soil. Other strange-looking plants of the arum family are in flower, one of the most gigantic *Godwinia gigas* being very extraordinary in colour and form. Near it is the most wonderful plant that has flowered in England since the introduction of the Victoria Lily some fifty years ago—namely, *Amorphophallus Titanum*, a herb which took ten years to grow to flowering size, and when it did flower at Kew last year, its tuber weighed over half a hundredweight, and its flower was large enough for a full-sized cobra to hide in. The orchids are rapidly unfolding their flowers, and will be at their best in about another six weeks. At present there are masses of snow-white *Cœlogyne*, elegant wands of *Odontoglossum;* Dendrobiums from Australia, from India, and from China, exquisite in form and colour. A delicious almond-like fragrance fills one of the houses, and is due to the white flowers of a plant called *Pilumna*. Great butterfly-like Cattleyas and Lælias on one side, the moth-like *Phalænopsis* on the other, justify the popularity of the whole family. We specially note a little plant, not an inch high, has one large quaint-looking flower suggestive of the head of a lop-eared rabbit, and coloured rosy white with numerous spots of deep purple. It is about 4 inches across, and its name is *Cypripedium bellatulum*. We are informed that a year or so ago plants of this could not be bought under ten guineas, which now are obtainable for as many shillings. And yet every one of these plants has to be brought from some small islands difficult of access off Siam. A little plant with flat worm-like roots clinging to a bit of twig no larger than a pencil, leafless and bearing two long spikes of yellow and brown flowers, was pointed out to us as having been at Kew three years and never borne a leaf, although it has flowered every year. The habits of many orchids are almost monkey-like in their queerness.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE COLLECTION OF COUNTY COUNCIL LICENCES.

To the EDITOR *of the* PALL MALL GAZETTE.

SIR,—In the interesting reference to County Council licences in the daily Notes of the *Pall Mall Gazette* of February 25 it is stated that the Middlesex County Council has "proposed" to issue a notice to their ratepayers respecting the payment of licences. Would you permit me to say that the Middlesex Council has some time ago publicly warned their ratepayers that if they took out their licences outside the county they would be contributing to the reduction of the rates of other districts, and the corresponding increase of their own rates, which they had to pay. I was myself in the Inland Revenue over twenty years, and know that, with regard to the City Post Offices especially, the chief portion of the dog, game, gun, carriage, armorial, and male servant licences taken out thereat, belong to persons living outside the boundaries of the London Council, who will receive the revenue therefrom. The recent decision in the High Court of Justice that omnibuses should be classed as hackney carriages, and are therefore liable to a duty of fifteen shillings only, instead of two guineas, as hitherto charged, will cause a loss of many thousands, principally to the London Council; and if the financial effects of this judgment are not rectified, the loss will be an annual one. It would appear that the Board of Inland Revenue, assisted by a costly solicitors' department, are unable to interpret aright their own laws. These matters furnish strong arguments in favour of the contention that the councils should take into their own hands the collection of the Inland Revenue taxes assigned for their use.

—I am Sir, your obedient servant,

MALTUS QUESTEL HOLYOAKE.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

We heartily congratulate the conference of Women's Liberal Associations in that "while cordially recognizing the immediate necessity of the just settlement of the Irish question," and the desirability of other planks in the party platform, they have at length plucked up courage to demand their own enfranchisement and to declare that it ought to be included in the Liberal programme. These good ladies ought to have spoken long ago. That Liberal M.P.'s and politicians should have accepted their services all this time in getting up the steam in every election and on every political question without recognizing the logical corollary of those services in the franchise, is only an instance of that trait in human nature which disposes us, as long as we can get all we want out of people for nothing, so long not to think of giving anything in return. Now that the party woman has found her tongue, there is some chance that the party man will find his ears.

So far as a special jury and substantial damages can do it, Sir Morell Mackenzie has now completely cleared his professional character. His libellers did not, indeed, venture even so much as to repeat the charges. We may hope, therefore, that we have now heard the last of a painful controversy, and the last also of any attempts to Germanize the English press. Mr. Steinkopff must surely be convinced by this time that the game is not worth the candle. "Tips" from Prince Bismarck's underlings may have a certain glamour to the German mind; but as a business man, Mr. Steinkopff must be feeling keenly this morning that such glamour may be bought too dear.

"He had accused public men of enabling an accused person to escape the country. A more disgraceful charge, if false, was never made."—The Attorney-General and ex-counsel for the *Times*, in the House of Commons last night.

Charge XII. in "Parnellism and Crime":—
That Mr. Parnell on January 25, 1883, by an opportune remittance, enabled F. Byrne to escape from justice to France.
The Commissioners' Report thereon:—
We find that Mr. Parnell did not make any remittance to enable F. Byrne to escape from justice.

Captain O'Shea is a clever man, as everybody knows, and a "cheeky," as the following letter which he publishes in to-day's *Times* shows:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "TIMES."

SIR,—With prudent alacrity Sir William Harcourt has withdrawn the falsehood which he told about me in his speech at Bath. A gentleman would have added an expression of regret.—Your obedient servant, W. H. O'SHEA.
124, Victoria-street, S.W., Feb. 28.

It must have required some impudence to indite such a remark to the editor of the journal which is infamous for the meanest and shabbiest apology for one of the grossest and most damaging falsehoods on record.

Most of the second ballots in Germany do not take place till to-day; but the results of a few that were decided yesterday show which way the wind is blowing. The hope of the Conservatives was that where the Socialists headed the poll all parties would combine against them. As, however, three Socialists were elected yesterday—at Munich, Mannheim, and Frankfort severally—it does not look as if the anti-Socialist fusion were going to amount to much. Of the other four results, two were favourable to the National Liberals, and two to the Radicals. At this rate the second ballots will not counteract, but confirm, the first.

The only points in which the programme of the Berlin Conference touches the question of the regulation of the hours of labour of adult males are connected with work in mines. The Conference is to discuss the "limitation of the shifts in peculiarly unhealthy mines," and a restriction of the output of coal by an international agreement for a more general restriction on the hours of miners' work. The presence of these points in the programme is very significant in connection with the demand of the miners of this country for an eight hours' day. The fact is that mines are the weakest part of the individualist case. It was with reference to mines that the first Act was passed in England for restricting the labour of adult females. The principle thus established, that the industrial liberties of adults might be curtailed by law in the case of females was soon extended to occupations above ground. It is not unlikely that the same course of development will be followed with regard to regulating the labour of adult males.

The other points in the Berlin programme are all matters of ancient history in the factory legislation of this country. Our factory laws, in spite of one or two curious inconsistencies and deficiencies, regulate the labour of women and children far more effectively than any similar laws in other countries. No English child may go to work under ten years of age; children from ten to thirteen are half-timers; "young persons" from thirteen to eighteen and all women are prohibited from working more than 56½ hours a week in a textile, and more than sixty hours in a non-textile, factory. If the German Emperor can persuade the Reichstag to impose limits as close as these on the labour of the female and juvenile operatives of the Fatherland he will do more than the most sanguine Socialist yet dares to hope for.

A "Postal Reformer" sends us the following remarks on the new telegraphic money orders:—

It is a remarkable and not very creditable fact that no concession can be given to the public as regards postal facilities by the British Postmaster-General, who in such matters has been invariably preceded by the Continental offices, but it must be not only at a higher price, but with only a portion of their facilities. On the 1st March we are to have from all offices what even India has had for many years, telegraphic money orders, and the lowest charge for an order for £1 is 4*d.* for commission, and 9*d.* for the wiring, and then payment can only be made at the Post Office. £10 is the utmost amount, and the total cost is 1*s.* 9*d.* Now in Belgium for many years back any money order may be telegraphed up to £200, or 5,000 *f.* The charge for commission is *exactly the same* as for ordinary money orders, up to 10 *f.*, 1*d.*; 20 *f.*, 1½*d.*; 40 *f.*, 2*d.*; over 50 *f.* and up to 100 *f.*, or £4 English, 3*d.*; £10 would cost 9*d.* To this must be added the "wire," which only costs one penny for five words, and the sender may send with it a signed communication. But if the message is made urgent, the charge is 2*d.* for each five words. For payment of the amount at once at any private address it is only necessary to pay the customary charges for express matter, 2½*d.* within the circle of delivery, and the money is forwarded without delay. If we take a medium order, say for £4, and compare the charges in Belgium and England, they will stand thus:—

	Belgium.	United Kingdom.
Commission	3*d.*	8*d.*
Wiring, using say twelve words if not "urgent"	3*d.*	9*d.*
	6*d.*	1*s.* 5*d.*

Something must be put down for the time lost in leaving the British residence, to get the money and other expenses in connection. In Belgium it would be taken to the residence if not over £40, and the cost would only be 1*d.* extra. For 2½*d.* extra an express messenger would be sent and the charge would be the same as for a letter. The above charges are a translation from a late Belgium Postal Guide.

MINOR ART EXHIBITIONS.

WITH the advent of the London season the floodgates of art, and imitation art, have opened, and deluged Bond-street and the vicinity. Not that they are all worth seeing, much less buying; but some there are that claim not only respectful attention but careful study.

DAUBIGNY AT THE GOUPIL GALLERY.

The first of these, among the galleries that have been inaugurated within the past week or so, is the loan exhibition of the works of Daubigny at the rooms of Messrs. Boussod, Valadon, and Co. Never before has the artist been so justly seen in London, for although collections very excellent in their way have been brought together here, they have never been truly representative for lack of important works—just as Rembrandt, Velazquez, and Frans Hals have never been seen in England in the fulness of their power. For the first time, then, we see the artist's genius as it was, and are able to weigh the claims of his admirers that he should be considered a "Great Master." We readily see and admit the remarkable vigour, the robustness, the delicacy, the truth of observation, the strength of colour, and justness of tone which go to make a fine painter of landscape; but for all that we cannot recognize the position it seems fashionable to accord to him, or adjudge him of the calibre of the truly great. But none the less is his work as full of knowledge and instruction as it is of beauty, with a greater range than would appear at a first examination.

"ROYAL BERKSHIRE" AT THE DOWDESWELL GALLERY.

To Messrs. Dowdeswell's gallery Messrs. Yeend King, R.S., John Bromley, R.B.A., and J. Macintosh, R.B.A., have contributed nearly seven score pictures and drawings of as many picturesque nooks and corners of "Royal Berkshire." Mr. Yeend King is unquestionably the most skilful of the dexterous trio, and in both mediums has executed a considerable number of clever works, notably "Market Ilsley" and "The Water Bridge, Newbury," among the oil, and "Farringdon" among the water colours. Mr. John Bromley and Mr. Macintosh are curiously alike in method, but the former is the stronger man judged by results. The whole of the exhibition is a pleasant collection of Berkshire "bits," but hardly remarkable for charm of colour, of effect, or tone.

THE ANTWERP "CERCLE ARTISTIQUE" AT THE BURLINGTON.

If the president and members of the Cercle Artistique of Antwerp sent over their collection of pictures to the Burlington Gallery, in Bond-street, with a view to making an impression on the visitor they have doubtless succeeded in their object—but hardly as they intended. Just a few, a very few, are good, but the poor quality of the rest is through their presence made the more evident. Heer Emile Claus has two capital works, one of geese in a cornfield, and the other entitled "A Country Girl"—a sturdy, cross-armed maiden—painted with freshness, knowledge, power, and excellent feeling. Heer Van Engelen contributes a brilliantly-executed picture of "Cocks fighting," and—that is all.

WATER COLOURS AT MESSRS. AGNEW'S.

The very remarkable collection of water-colour drawings now on view at Messrs. Agnew's has probably not been equalled, or at least surpassed, within recent years. The whole historic field of the art seems to be covered, and a certain number of foreign practitioners have been included as well. It is not necessary to go into details, but it should be mentioned that three superb specimens of Fred Walker's art are here—"Summer," "Spring," and "The First Swallow," exquisite drawings all three; some magnificent De Wints, grand alike in execution and in condition—(what does Sir J. C. Robinson say to them?)—some fine Copley Fieldings; a perfect Turner, among several, "The Bridge of Sighs;" a fine, simply-painted Meissonier, "A Cavalier in Waiting;" and adequate examples of many a master, past and present. At the same time, indifferent work is by no means excluded.

MR. FRED HALL'S CARICATURES.

Mr. Fred Hall is a well known member of the group of painters known as the Newlyn School. There are about twenty young painters who live and work in the little Cornish village. Stanhope Forbes, Bramley, Chevalier Tayler, Norman Garstin—these, together with the subject of this notice, are amongst the most prominent. There is a strong family resemblance between the pictures of all the men. Fisher life and peasant subjects, treated in a some-

THE NEWLYN SCHOOL.

what low key, sombreness of colour, and a very dexterous use of their square brushes, are a few of the principal characteristics. In fact it is sometimes difficult for the uninitiated to tell the work of one of them from that of another without referring to the big deliberate-looking capital letters with which they sign their names upon their pictures. Most people, therefore, who pay a visit to the exhibition of sketches of the "Devon and Somerset Staghounds," by Mr. Fred Hall, at Mr. Dunthorne's pretty little gallery in Vigo-street, will think that the artist has broken out in a new place, for all of the works here shown are caricatures in silhouette and in colour. When eighteen months ago he removed from Newlyn to Porlock, for a change of painting-ground, he amused himself in his spare moments by decorating the walls of his huge studio (formerly the village schoolhouse) with representations of such persons in the vicinity as took his fancy. By-and-by Mr. Hall became a sort of terror in the neighbourhood. Mr. Dunthorne paid a visit to Porlock last Easter, and being much struck with the power displayed in these works, suggested that they should be copied for framing and shown in London. And thus the present exhibition was brought about. Porlock is situated in a famous hunting country, where the whole country-side still meets to hunt the red deer in the old legitimate way. It is the country of that most famous of sporting parsons "Jack" Russell, whose memory is kept in such affectionate remembrance in the West country. Here may be seen on meet days many keen sportsmen of the old school, military men and country gentlemen, and younger blades growing up in the ways of their fathers. The parsons are sporting men on weekdays, and some times, it is even whispered, on Sundays. There are huntsmen in red coats, and even the old "velvet"—the only one between Porlock and Taunton—is represented in Mr. Hall's work. Ladies there are no doubt as beautiful as Devonshire ladies generally are, although it has not been so much among these that Mr. Hall's work has been done; for no one can caricature beauty. Among all of these people, not omitting those of his own craft, the artist has kept his eyes open, and the likeness in the sixty works exhibited is in most cases remarkable. He draws horses well, and dogs particularly well, and all of his work is fresh and vigorous. It is a show which everybody interested in art ought to see, for it is art of a very high quality indeed. It is thoroughly individual, reminding us of nobody else's work, and shows a perception and grasp of character and a simplicity of manner in rendering an impression which we were quite unprepared for. It is indeed refreshing to see, in this vital department of art, the work of a man with what Mr. Ruskin would call "the training proper to a painter."

If Mr. Hall should give up picture painting and devote himself to caricature we may safely predict for him a very successful future. And although he may be disposed to differ from us we may add that his contribution to the art of his day would be thereby improved in quality.

NEW BOOKS.

"Miss Meredith."

"Miss Meredith." By Amy Levy. (Hodder and Stoughton.) In this her last and latest novel Miss Levy acts exactly contrary to the recent advice of Mr. A. Lang, that novelists should not lay the scene of their novel in Italy. Miss Levy goes to Fisa for her background to a charming little story which treats of the life of an English girl in the house of the aristocratic Marchesa Brogi. On reading through the little book, and noting the graceful ease with which the writer wielded her pen; the strong, clear lines with which she draws her characters, the keen observation and sound insight into things in so young an authoress—one cannot but once again reflect regretfully on the fact that "she chose to die," and that the hope of another work from the pen which wrote "Reuben Sachs" and "A Minor Poet" will never be fulfilled.

A History of Modern Europe.

"The Reconstruction of Europe." A Sketch of the Diplomatic and Military History of Europe from the Rise to the Fall of the Second French Empire. By Harold Murdock. (Longmans.) Mr. Murdock's book is not a pretentious performance; it bears all the evidence of sound and serious work. He has not, like some so-called historians, contented himself with a bare record of big events and left details to look after themselves, but has carefully traced the causes of many of the more important changes that have taken place in Europe since 1850. The rise of the German Imperial power, the unification of Italy, and the collapse of the French Empire are fully described. There is an excellent account of the Crimean campaign and also of the Franco-German war. Mr. Murdock, who is, we understand, an American, holds no brief for any party or nation. His book is throughout strictly impartial; his style is facile and picturesque; and his narrative well balanced. To those who want to read up the principal events of Continental history of the last fifty years, and who have not the necessary time in these days of hurry to go through more ponderous tomes, Mr. Murdock's volume may be confidently recommended.

A Nihilist Novel.

"Within an Ace." By M. Eastwood. (Digby and Long.) No doubt the camp of the Nihilists is a happy hunting-ground for the author in search of "a modern sensation." But in order to make the "sensation" at all life-like, or even probable (and being "modern" it certainly ought to be so), it is necessary that the author should know more about the subject with which he deals than does Mr. Eastwood, whose knowledge of Russian Nihilists evidently consists of the fact that the Nihilists are a body of desperadoes bent on overthrowing the present régime in Russia, by killing the Sovereign and terrifying all quiet people. The author further points out in the course of the story that the killing of Tzars and State dignitaries is not the proper way to bring about the needed reforms in Russia. This conviction is put into the mouth of the hero of the book (Vladimir Alexandrovitch Lubanoff)—who, indeed, had good reason to have a grudge against the Nihilists, since, having been one of them, he had been hanged by the neck until he was nearly dead. After emerging from this fatality he hides in his sweetheart's lodgings, is several times "within an ace" of being caught, and escapes eventually to Berlin, where an old Lancashire millowner comes to the rescue and gives him the post of a medical man at his works, with an annual salary of £500. Marusha, the sweetheart, who is a very charming figure in the book, and who has followed her lover to Berlin, becomes Lubanoff's wife, and there the story ends. Improbable as it seems, it is brightly told and cleverly worked out; and some of the situations are dramatic.

"The Chalice of Carden."

"The Chalice of Carden." By Thomas Wright. (Skeffington and Son.) This is a tale of the romantic kind. A certain mysterious chalice, of solid gold and gorgeous with gems, which had once belonged to the abbey of St. Albans, is connected, with the fortunes of the Cardens of Carden Hall. The heir of the house joins the Jacobites in the "Forty-five," and his father, warned by a prophecy made by a wizard parson a century before, of disasters that were to happen, hides the chalice. Dying shortly afterwards, he leaves his estates for safety's sake to "Mistress Barnet," his betrothed, and this "story of pertinacity and perseverance" (for so Mr. Wright describes his tale) relates how this young lady recovered the missing talisman. There is not a little merit and careful work in the story, and a fair amount of humour in the descriptions of village life and rustic oddities. But Mr. Wright wants some good advice—the counsel of some courageous friend who would go through his book with him, and strike out everything that does not bear at least indirectly on the story. It is, we should say, at least a third too long; and it might easily have been reduced to proper proportions. Chapter X., for instance, entitled "The Tilted Cart," might have been retrenched without loss. It does not forward the story, except so far as it relates how two not very important characters travelled from one place to another, but is wholly occupied with the doings of a knavish carrier who crowds his cart beyond all endurance. And then the supernatural element is of doubtful advantage. It is a very old maxim in literature that we are disgusted with what we do not believe.

The Book of Robert Burns.

We have received the second volume of "The Book of Robert Burns," by Dr. Charles Rogers, and published by the Grampian Club, Edinburgh. Like the first, already noticed, it is devoted to genealogical and historical memoirs of the poet, his associates, and those celebrated in his writings. One of the most interesting sketches in the book is that of Nasmyth the painter, to whom we are indebted for the excellent and well-known "presentment" of Burns. When the first Edinburgh edition of the poet's works was to be printed the publisher determined to illustrate it with a portrait of the bard, and invited the artist to meet Burns at his house for the necessary sittings. The portrait was successfully completed, and was afterwards transferred to copper, Nasmyth stating that the print reminded him more distinctly of Burns than did his own picture. Nasmyth's painting was given to the poet, and was finally bequeathed by Colonel Burns, his son, to the Scottish National Gallery, where it still hangs. Of two duplicates by Nasmyth one is preserved in the National Portrait Gallery, London, and the other at Auchendrane House, Ayrshire. Among the other contents we notice biographical sketches of John Ramsay, of Ochtertyre, and the Rev. John Skinner, author of the famous "Tullochgorum." Much praise is due to Dr. Rogers for the great pains he has taken with his work. The labour involved must have been almost incalculable, but he has the satisfaction of knowing that his volume will be of interest and value to many as long as Burns's poems are read and his songs sung.

Quakerism.

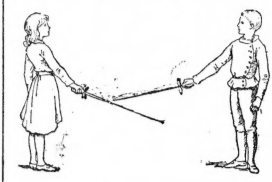
"The Quakers." By F. Storrs-Turner. (Swan Sonnenschein and Co.) This is a very careful study of the curious history of the rise and decline of the Society of Friends. It is somewhat astonishing to learn that in the reign of William III. it was estimated that the Quakers were quite half of the total number of Nonconformists in England, including Roman Catholics; and their numbers were placed at 50,000 or 100,000. Now they are said to number only 15,000. One may take leave to doubt there being only 200,000 Dissenters in the reign of William III. However, there is no reason to doubt that the Quakers, who had grown more rapidly than any other denomination between 1642 and 1688, have been declining for at least a century. Their prophet George Fox seems, like other religious founders, not to have been quite such a prophet as he thought himself, or as other people thought him at the time. His main doctrine of the Inward Light seems to have taken chiefly by way of reaction against the Roman Catholic and Anglican claims of the external Church, and the Presbyterian and Independent insistence on the letter of the Bible; while his other great doctrine, of peace and non-resistance, was a welcome alternative to the strong arm and violence of Roundhead and Cavalier. Persecution acting on already excited minds did the rest. When toleration came, the very absence of an organized ministry and the insistence on individual inspiration and the fluidity of doctrine which made Quakerism so successful at first caused it to decline in times of quiet. But Quakerism did three good things theoretical: it made peace a definite doctrine; it asserted the ecclesiastical rights of women; and it assisted discussion on the infallibility of the Biblical text. In action, to have purged prisons and to have powerfully contributed to the suppression of slavery is evidence of the practical results of Quakerism which makes one regret that Quakers are a vanishing quantity.

The Ladies' Corner.

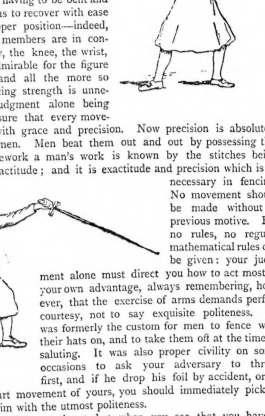
On the Advantages of Teaching Girls to Fence.

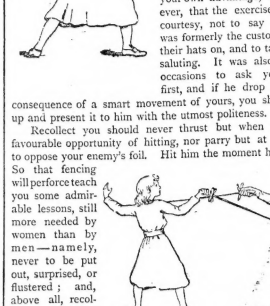
The art of fencing was the delight of our forefathers, and we are much pleased to see the fashion is reviving for ladies, as well as gentlemen. It does not require strength, and will be found a graceful and healthy amusement for young girls. People shrink from learning, under the erroneous impression that an art which has taken three centuries to bring to perfection must be full of difficulties, and impossible to acquire within a reasonable time; but such is not the case. The theory of fencing may be learnt as easily as any other game, it will be found more fascinating than most games, and more interesting the more it is practised. The helpless stoop of growing girls would be corrected by learning to fence. Most young French ladies are taught as a matter of course, and one of our Royal Princesses, lately a bride, is a first-rate fencer. Surely an art combining exercise and amusement, which develops suppleness and strength, makes the figure upright, gives an easy carriage and dignity to the movements, ought to be encouraged. It is, at the same time, an intellectual training, for it requires two great qualities — common-sense and judgment. A good fencer must watch for the foreseen, and the unforeseen—be "all there" and always be "on guard."

So much slovenly work is done in the world, so much is taught to girls and learnt by them in a slipshod way, that it is worth while to have them trained in an art which permits no listless languor and half-and-half performances.

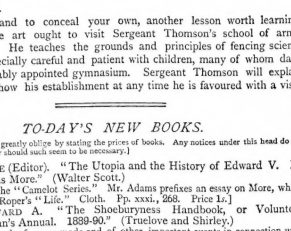


The careless and ungraceful manner in which, in these days, girls shuffle through a quadrille or get knocked about in a valse can no longer be spoken of as the art of dancing; but fencing would teach them how to stand, walk, and move with grace. No exercise can give such freedom; for every part of the body is continually in action, and the idle practice of standing about on one leg, so universal with young girls, and which is known to have often caused irreparable mischief to the figure, is prevented by learning to fence. The now forgotten game of croquet, in which there was so much resting on one leg, was found most injurious. In fencing, the legs are so placed that the body rests equally on both feet, which must be firmly on the ground, and the beautiful way in which the left arm serves as a balance makes the fencer recover his position with facility and quickness. The knee having to be bent and then straightened, so as to recover with ease and steadiness the proper position—indeed, one may say all the members are in continual play, the elbow, the knee, the wrist, the foot—all this is admirable for the figure of a growing girl, and all the more so because in good fencing strength is unnecessary, mind and judgment alone being required, so as to ensure that every movement is carried out with grace and precision. Now precision is absolutely wanting in most women. Men beat them out and out by possessing this gift. Even in needlework a man's work is known by the stitches being made with greater exactitude; and it is exactitude and precision which is so necessary in fencing. No movement should be made without a previous motive. But no rules, no regular mathematical rules can be given: your judgment alone must direct you how to act most to your own advantage, always remembering, however, that the exercise of arms demands perfect courtesy, not to say exquisite politeness. It was formerly the custom for men to fence with their hats on, and to take them off at the time of saluting. It was also proper civility on some occasions to ask your adversary to thrust first, and if he drop his foil by accident, or in consequence of a smart movement of yours, you should immediately pick it up and present it to him with the utmost politeness.





Recollect you should never thrust but when you see that you have a favourable opportunity of hitting, nor parry but at the time that favours you to oppose your enemy's foil. Hit him the moment he intended to have hit you. So that fencing will perfect each you some admirable lessons, still more needed by women than by men—namely, never to be put out, surprised, or flustered; and, above all, recollect you must endeavour to discover your adversary's designs, and to conceal your own, another lesson worth learning. All lovers of the art ought to visit Sergeant Thomson's school of arms, 6, Soho-square. He teaches the grounds and principles of fencing scientifically, and is specially careful and patient with children, many of whom daily attend his admirably appointed gymnasium. Sergeant Thomson will explain his system and show his establishment at any time he is favoured with a visit.



TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review should such seem to be necessary.]

Adams, Maurice (Editor). "The Utopia and the History of Edward V. By Sir Thomas More." (Walter Scott.)
[A volume of the "Camelot Series." Mr. Adams prefixes an essay on More, which is followed by Roper's "Life." Cloth. Pp. xxxi., 268. Price 1s.]

Attwood, Edward A. "The Shoeburyness Handbook, or Volunteer Artilleryman's Annual. 1889-90." (Truelove and Shirley.)
[Complete record of scores made and of other important events in connection with the Shoeburyness prize meetings since 1855. Limp cloth. Price 1s. An excellent year book.]

Errol, Henry. "By Woman's Favour." (Bentley and Son.)
[A novel in three volumes.]

Bord's Pianos.—25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, Southampton Row, Holborn, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

COLONIAL BORROWINGS AND SPENDINGS.

The British Colonies Compared.

One of the most interesting chapters in the new volume of "Burdett's Official Intelligence" is that dealing with Colonial Finance. It is all the more important at the present time, owing to the agitation in favour of empowering trustees to invest in colonial stocks, and to the fact that a Committee is now sitting on this question. Further, it is of importance, as it is the first time that the whole of the British colonies have been compared and classified on an identical basis, so that any one may be able to ascertain their relative value and importance to the mother country, and the progress or otherwise which they have made in various directions. It must have cost Mr. Burdett not a little trouble to obtain these figures and classify them as he has done, and the investor cannot fail to be grateful to him for his labour.

The Crown colonies have no public debt to speak of, with the exception of Ceylon and Jamaica, the former's indebtedness amounting to 2¼ millions, and the latter's to 1½ millions. It is the colonies endowed with local self-government which are the free borrowers, and whether it be Australasia, South Africa, or Canada, there is an equal readiness, and even eagerness, to draw upon London. Whether they have outrun discretion and pledged the future to a dangerous extent is the vexed problem of the economists. The borrowers have no scruples on that score, and the lenders are not much troubled with doubts, judging by the current quotations on the Stock Exchange, but Parliament has yet to be persuaded that there is that security which would warrant it in permitting trustees to invest in colonial stocks. In all probability the day is not far distant when the hall-mark will be impressed at least on some of them.

The two aspects of colonial indebtedness to which the greatest importance is very properly attached are (1) the reproductiveness or otherwise of the loans raised, and (2) the relative proportion found to exist from time to time between the growth of the indebtedness of a colony and the growth of its population. On these two points Mr. Burdett says:—

Where the increase in the loan debt is altogether out of proportion to the increase in the population the situation becomes serious, and demands the attention of those responsible for the administration. Every community, and especially every borrowing community, must carefully eradicate from its system of government everything which tends to prevent the steady and, what is even more important, the necessary increase of the population, that is, an increase to an extent at least equal to the requirements of those who have to assess its prosperity and status upon a sound financial basis. Borrowers must be prepared to show not only what they propose to do with the money raised if they get it, but also that the steady upward development of resources and productiveness warrant the proposed additions to loan debt. When a community has reached, or is borrower, the maximum sum which its condition and circumstances entitle it to raise, a limit has been reached which ought not to be passed unless or until the steady growth of the population, and the consequent increase in the amount of work done, as shown by the improvements carried out, and the amount of land under cultivation, combine to render further borrowings not only good policy but an urgent necessity.

The attitude of some of the colonies in not only not encouraging, but rather in discouraging immigration, has a very considerable bearing on the question of indebtedness, and it will hardly be disputed that an increase of population is desirable in several of them in view of their debt. With respect to productive and non-productive expenditure, it is not always possible to classify the two; for although a particular outlay may help to develop the resources of a colony, and is thereby productive, yet, as it does not bring in direct revenue, it may be said to come under the second category. This, however, is clear, that the burden of debt upon a colony is not the annual charge thereon, but this sum less the net revenue derived from productive works. When, therefore, a half or more of the annual charge on the public debt is defrayed by the revenue from productive works, it is clear that the indebtedness of the colonies is totally different in character to that of the European States, for which there is absolutely nothing to show. "Having regard to all the circumstances," remarks Mr. Burdett, "there is justification for the contention of the colonial authorities that these loans have for the greater part been carefully utilized for the development of the resources of the respective colonies, and that the war and defence expenditure, as well as the outlay upon public works of a non-productive character, has been remarkably small. Indeed, in the older colonies, such as Victoria and New South Wales, it is becoming increasingly the practice to make revenue bear the burden of new public buildings, and of various other works of a public character which can be rightly so charged."

Among the other interesting tables given in the article is one which shows to what extent the colonies provide a market for British goods and manufactures, and to what extent they supply the requirements of the mother country. Not only is there a very large direct trade between the United Kingdom and her colonies, but also between these colonies themselves. Thus the Australasian colonies imported in 1888 over 30 millions' worth of goods from the United Kingdom, and from other colonies 28½ millions, while the imports from foreign countries only amounted to 6½ millions. With respect to the exports the United Kingdom took 28¾ millions, other colonies received 24½ millions, and foreign countries less than 4½ millions. The South African colonies, which are among our large customers, do a comparatively trifling business with foreign countries, but Canada, owing to its contiguity to the United States, gives larger figures under that head than with the mother country and the other colonies combined, the latter being very small. The trade of the Crown colonies with the United Kingdom and the other colonies taken together runs up into considerable figures, and even in several individual cases they are very large. Ceylon, for instance, imported 1½ millions from the United Kingdom, and nearly 3½ from other colonies; while the imports from foreign countries only amount to a third of a million. The Straits Settlements, again, took well on to a million millions' worth of goods from Great Britain, and over eight millions from other colonies, the imports from foreign countries in this case also being very large, amounting to as much as the two combined. A study of the table shows very clearly that it is not the old country merely which derives trade advantages from the British colonies, but that the whole are carrying on an extensive interchange of commodities, and that mutual benefits result from the development and prosperity of Great Britain's Colonial Empire.

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The Morning Post says:—"The illustrations are numerous, and, for the most part, excellent photo-engravings of notable works in this magnificent collection."

The Daily News says:—"The substantial pamphlet with this title which has been added to the long list of 'Pall Mall Gazette' Extras, is one of the most practical and serviceable of the series. Numberless visitors must have felt the need of a cheap and handy catalogue, giving so much in the way of description or of critical comment as can conveniently be added in the presence of the pictures. This purpose the pamphlet fulfils admirably, while its directions how to see the collection in twelve half-holidays will confer a valuable service on those who wish that previous collection not merely to weary themselves out with staring at paintings, but to carry away some knowledge of their qualities, their story and their relations to the history of art."

The Speaker says:—"The latest 'Pall Mall Gazette' 'Extra'—the fiftieth of those useful publications, by the way—forms a much needed popular guide to our great national collection in Trafalgar-square. The general introduction is most suggestively divided into a dozen 'Half-holiday' chapters, and the explanatory catalogue which follows is a model of its kind. Short of Macmillan's larger handbook, which is, out of the reach of most people, nothing better than this little volume can perhaps be hoped for. The illustrations are typical and well executed. It is altogether a wonderful sixpenny worth."

The Daily Graphic says:—"The National Gallery has received the attention of another 'Guide.' The new-comer is a 'Pall Mall Gazette' 'Extra,' altogether better printed, illustrated, and produced than any of the long line of predecessors, and admirably adapted to the 'plain man's' use. Provided as it is with an exhaustive catalogue and full index, it is the handiest of all handy guides to our magnificent collection in Trafalgar-square."

Vanity Fair says:—"The book is carefully compiled and admirably illustrated. This is a capital sixpenny-worth."

Piccadilly says:—"A useful little book. It is a perfect guide to the Gallery, contains a plan of the rooms, and a 'scheme' by which the casual visitor may see all the best pictures in twelve days. I have no hesitation in saying that the guide to which I am calling attention is far better than the official catalogue."

The Star says:—"I have just received from the 'Pall Mall Gazette' Office a sixpenny 'Guide to the National Gallery,' which is a really wonderful production. The illustrations and arrangement are alike excellent."

"Pall Mall Gazette" Office, 2, Northumberland-street, Strand, London, W.C.

NOTICES.

THE PALL MALL GAZETTE *is sent post free for any number of days to any address in the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and all countries in the Postal Union, at the rate of nineteen per week, or 9s. 9d. per quarter. The* PALL MALL BUDGET, *also post free, costs for the United Kingdom 4s. 11d. per quarter; for the Continent, United States, Canada, and Egypt 6s. per quarter; for the Cape Colonies, Transvaal, Australia, New Zealand, West Indies, and South America 6s. 6d. per quarter; for India and China 7s. 7d. per quarter. Apply to the Manager,* PALL MALL GAZETTE, 2, NORTHUMBERLAND-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

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Announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths are inserted for 5s. each.

SAVOY THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, R. D'OYLY CARTE. This DAY at 2.30 and 8.30, the entirely original Comic Opera in Two Acts, entitled THE GONDOLIERS, by W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR SULLIVAN. Doors open at 2 and 8. MORNING PERFORMANCE TO-DAY, at 2.30. Doors open at 2. Box-office open daily from 9 A.M. till 11 P.M.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—The Barnes Ballet and Pantomimic Troupe; Herr Schalkenbach with his mysterious Orchestrian; Professor Baker's Naval Spectacle, "The Armada;" Corney and Charley; Burnum's Charley Spencer, Comedienne; Fred Paulton, the American Champion Weight Lifter; Adelaide and Lilian; the Six Sunbeams; the wonderful Leopolds; M. Servais Le Roy, Marvellous Belgian Conjurer; the Bellsmes; the Brothers Modaloff; the Inverness Minstrel Troupe; SCOTT EDWARDES, Reciter. Open at 12, close at 11.30 P.M. Admission 1s., Children 6d. MAGNETTA, novel illusion, on view all day. Dr. ONOFROFF, the Remarkable Thought Reader, in the Theatre, at 4.3 and 9.30.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—WELSH PROMENADE CONCERT on ST. DAVID'S DAY, TO-DAY (Saturday), at 3. Welsh Ballads will be sung by Miss Anna Williams, Miss Mary Morgan, Mr. Hirwen Jones, and Mr. Egbert Roberts. Welsh Selections by Military Band, under direction of Mr. CHARLES GODFREY, Jun. 6,000 seats and Grand Promenade till Five. Admission to Palace after 5, 1s.

MADAME TUSSAUD AND SONS' EXHIBITION.—Music all day from 12 to 10 P.M. Recitals by Mr. Mull on the New Organ from 12 to 2, and 6 to 7.30. Mr. SEYBOLT'S Jingdon Kapelle Swiss Band and Mountain Choir, in National Costumes, to play before her Majesty the Queen at Balmoral, on fifty different Instruments, from 2 to 4. The Grand Orchestra, conducted by Mr. HENRY TENNEY, from 4 to 6 and 7.30 to 10. Open from 10 till 10. Admission 1s.; children under twelve 6d.

NIAGARA IN LONDON. COLOSSAL PANORAMA OF THE GREAT FALLS. Lounge, Music Stereoscopic Views of all America, Cheap Restaurant. Fogs defeated. Electric Light. Open. Building pierced, warmed. Admission 1s. Tickets at libraries and hotels. No fees. 10 to 10.—YORK STREET, WESTMINSTER, St. James's Park Station. Second Year. One Million Visitors.

ART GALLERIES.

SPORTS AND ARTS EXHIBITION.—GROSVENOR GALLERY, NEW BOND-STREET, W. NOW OPEN. Ten to Seven. Admission 1s.

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HOTEL LIST.

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LONDON.—The HOTEL ALBEMARLE, corner of Albemarle-street and Piccadilly. NOW OPEN.—The Palatial Hotel is Now Open for the reception of Visitors. It is fitted up in the most luxurious style, and is one of the most select Hotels in Europe. Cuisine and Wines of the highest class. The Hotel Albemarle is under the personal management of the Proprietor, Mr. A. L. VOGEL.

PROPOSED EAST MARYLEBONE FREE LIBRARY.

The movement recently inaugurated for establishing a free library for East Marylebone, to be supported by public subscriptions, promises to be speedily successful. The Dowager Lady Howard de Walden has munificently offered £500, conditionally upon a similar sum being obtained. Of this £300 has already been contributed as the result of private effort, leaving only £200 to be made up, and the committee assured that this only requires to be publicly known for the amount to be at once forthcoming. Subscriptions of any amount will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Mr. Boulnois, M.P., and Mr. Alderman Frank Debenham, L.C.C., at the temporary offices, 29, Mortimer-street, W.

STRIKE IN THE BRICK TRADE,—5,000 MEN AFFECTED

To-day commences a struggle between Kentish barge and brick-masters and their men. The bargemen, who have formed themselves into a protection association, have issued a revised scale of charges for freights, in which are asking for about twenty per cent. beyond the old rates. The new charges came into operation to-day, but the masters have unanimously decided not to concede the demands of the men, resolving to tie up their barges and lock up their brickfields. This dispute will affect about five thousand hands in the neighbourhood of Sittingbourne.

LATEST ABOUT DR. PETERS.

The *General Anzeiger* of Nürnberg, where Dr. Peters' brother resides, publishes a telegram from Berlin, stating that in quarters well informed upon Colonial matters it is firmly believed that the Europeans who assisted the Christian King of Uganda to defeat the Arabs were the members of the German Expedition under Dr. Peters. The telegram adds that the time required for the Expedition to march from Kenia to Uganda corresponds with the date of the recent fighting in the latter territory.

THE IMPRISONED DUKE.

The Duc d'Orléans is reported to be in good spirits in his imprisonment at Clairvaux. The Governor of the gaol has received from the Government a wide discretion as to the treatment of his prisoner. Several members of the Orléans family and personal friends of the Duke are taking up their residence in the neighbourhood of the old abbey.

JUDGES ON THE SICK LIST.

The Master of the Rolls (Lord Esher) was unable to sit in court with the Lord Chief Justice yesterday, on account of a cold, and Mr. Justice Vaughan Williams was prevented from attending Queen's Bench Judges' Chambers from a similar cause. The latter judge, however, will, it is expected, be able to resume his duties this morning.

STOCKING THE BIRMINGHAM BENCH WITH TORIES.

Some time since considerable annoyance and indignation was caused in Birmingham by reason of Lord Halsbury making an unnecessary addition to the Commission of the Peace. He appointed five Conservatives and four Liberals, and at least one of the latter declined to serve. It is announced this morning that the Lord Chancellor has decided to make an addition of twelve to the list of Birmingham J.P.'s. Seven of the gentlemen whose names are mentioned are Tories, four are Liberal Unionists, the remaining gentleman on the list is the Mayor. It will be interesting to see what the Birmingham Liberals will say now.

THE METHODISTS IN AMERICA.

The Methodist body have paid a first instalment towards the purchase of a site near Washington on which it is proposed to erect a Methodist university.—*Reuter.*

THE HON. R. BRETT IN CORNWALL.

The Hon. Reginald Brett, the adopted Liberal candidate for South-east Cornwall, in opposition to Mr. Leonard Courtney, has been addressing a series of meetings in the constituency during this week, and has everywhere been received with great cordiality. He brought his visit to a close at Tywardreath last night, and, as at all his other meetings, a vote of confidence in him as the Liberal candidate was cordially adopted. Mr. Brett in his speeches has referred prominently to the Report of the Commission Judges, and last night he claimed that the effect of that Report had been to clear the Irish members of the more serious of the charges made against them, and the Liberal party were bound to push home the real meaning of the Judges' Report, the real meaning being that it was a monstrous and an infamous thing that those charges should ever have been made. It would be interesting to see if Mr. Caine followed up his recent letter on the Report by voting for Mr. Gladstone's forthcoming motion. Mr. Brett also claimed that the Liberal cause was making immense advances throughout the country.

FOURTH EDITION.

THE BEHRING SEA AND CANADIAN FISHERIES.

NEGOTIATIONS PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY.

Statements to which the State Department declines to give official confirmation are (says a Washington telegram to Reuter) made here to-day that the United States Government is in constant communication with Great Britain with a view to arriving at a settlement of the Canadian Fisheries' question, and is also negotiating with Great Britain, and incidentally with Russia, for an acknowledgment by those Powers of the jurisdiction of the United States in Behring Sea. Regarding the fisheries, it is understood that the negotiations are progressing in a manner satisfactory to both parties, and that the operation of the *modus vivendi*, allowing American fishermen to purchase bait, will be extended for an indefinite period without any documentary formalities.

MR. JAMES RUSSELL LOW SERIOUSLY ILL.

Mr. James Russell Lowell, according to a Reuter's telegram from Boston, is seriously ill, having contracted a cold, which has been followed by grave complications.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO LONDON.

The Queen leaves Windsor Castle about eleven o'clock on Tuesday morning for the Drawing Room on Wednesday, and travels by special Great Western train to Paddington, whence she drives under escort to Buckingham Palace. Her Majesty returns on Thursday.

EMIN PASHA TO RETURN TO THE INTERIOR.

Emin Pasha, it is thought in Cairo, will not come to that city, but will accompany Major Wissmann's expedition to the interior.

THE TREATMENT OF SIBERIAN PRISONERS.

At a mass meeting of Russians in New York last night resolutions were ordered to be sent to Mr. Blaine denouncing the Tzar for his treatment of political prisoners, and asking the United States Government to protest.—*Daïziel.*

SIR EDWARD WATKIN.

Sir Edward Watkin, we are glad to learn, is now fast recovering, and is able to leave his bed for a few hours daily. Drs. Jones and Renshaw, who are in attendance, assured him yesterday that the fractured rib has united. The lung trouble is also passing away satisfactorily.

A CONGRESSMAN SHOT AT BY AN EX-JUDGE.

A startling demonstration of the proverbial Kentucky lawlessness was given at Washington yesterday. Charles Kincaid, a correspondent of the *Louisville Times*, a Republican newspaper published in the chief city of Kentucky, shot a Democratic Congressman from Kentucky, named Taulbee, through the head, near one of the entrances of the National Capitol. There had been an encounter between the two recently, when the Congressman had pulled the correspondent's nose for something the latter wrote in his paper about him. Kincaid is of slight build, and an inoffensive looking man, of about thirty-five. He was formerly a judge in one of the Louisville courts. His family is one of the best known in Kentucky. The deed was simply in accordance with the almost universal custom prevailing in Kentucky of settling all disputes with the pistol or rifle. It is not known whether Mr. Taulbee's wound is likely to prove fatal, but it is stated to be dangerous.

DEATH OF MR. R. N. PHILIPS, EX-M.P.

Mr. R. N. Philips, long the much-esteemed parliamentary representative of Bury, died at Welcombe, Stratford-on-Avon, last evening. In 1885, when his constituents, hearing of his proposed retirement, met to acknowledge his faithful service and to present him with addresses of congratulation on his 70th birthday, a letter was read from Mr. Bright passing a high eulogium upon him for his services to the Liberal party, and Lord Hartington, making the principal speech of the evening, dwelt on the active part Mr. Philips and his family had taken in the Anti-Corn Law agitation, and in all other Liberal movements. "In Manchester," wrote Mr. Bright, "Mr. Philips is known as a merchant; in Warwickshire he is known as a landed proprietor of Liberal principles, and of a most just and generous character. In Parliament he is recognized as a steady adherent of all that tends to the growth of freedom and happiness among our people. His friends at Bury will doubly regret to part with him." Sir George Trevelyan is married to the eldest daughter of Mr. Philips.

SALE OF AN HISTORICAL ESTATE.

Steane Estate, between Farthinghoe and Brackley, in Northamptonshire, not far from the Banbury Cross celebrated in nursery rhyme, has been sold by Earl Spencer to Captain Alcock, of Leamington, for £25,000. This property has many historical associations, but is principally connected with the name of Bishop Crewe, the great prelate who presided over the See of Durham, and whose pliancy to the designs of the gloomy, saturnine James II., and then to the equally sinister machinations of William III., almost gives him a claim to stand on the same pedestal as the Vicar of Bray. Steane was both the birthplace and the sepulchre of this bishop. The old manor-house disappeared years ago, but the historic church still remains, and contains many interesting relics of the days of Charles II. and William III. All the surroundings are rich in memorials of Norman times, in addition to those of the Crewe family.

THE CONTEST AT STOKE-UPON-TRENT.

Mr. George Leveson-Gower, the Liberal candidate for Stoke-upon-Trent, has issued his address. The Unionist candidate will be Mr. William Shepherd Allen, who sat for Newcastle-under-Lyme for many years, but retired in 1886, when he joined the Unionists. He is at present in New Zealand; and the election will be fought in his absence, as he has consented to this course being taken.

EAST KENT OVERRUN WITH FOXES.

The complaint of a scarcity of foxes is no longer heard in East Kent, where, owing to the country being insufficiently hunted, the land is overrun with them, and farmers suffer seriously from their depredations. Large numbers are being trapped or shot, and a farmer living within a few miles of Sandwich has, it is stated, as many as eighteen or twenty skins of foxes he has shot or trapped during winter. There is scarcity of hares, but foxes have never been known to be so numerous in this part of the country.

THE ARCHIMANDRITE PAISI.

The Archimandrite Paisi, who was connected last year with Captain Ateinoff and his party in the Russian expedition to Abyssinia, is about to be appointed as Abbot to one of the most important monasteries in the Crimea. On the termination of the expedition, Father Paisi was ordered to be confined to any monastery he might select, but it was well understood that this was only a temporary sentence; therefore, his sudden elevation to the position of Abbot does not cause any surprise in Russia.

PHENOMENAL EPISCOPAL ACTIVITY.

The Bishop of Landaff left Cardiff this morning in order to preach the annual sermon on behalf of the Welsh charities at St. Benet's in the City to-day, and returns to-night in order to hold his ordination to-morrow. The Bishop of St. Asaph will address a large meeting to-night at Sheffield, under the presidency of Alderman Smith, on the Welsh Church, and on Monday will address a meeting at Stockton-on-Tees, which was arranged for by the late Bishop Lightfoot in almost the last letter he wrote.

DISSATISFACTION AMONG THE LIVERPOOL DOCKERS.

The relations of dockers with the shipowners and master stevedores at Liverpool are much strained, especially those employed at grain elevators, against which the men have made a dead set, and yesterday 1,000 struck. The Unionists threaten to refuse working alongside of non-unionists from next Monday, the former intending to wear a brass distinctive badge. The employers yesterday resolved to offer certain concessions to the men, and if not accepted threaten to import foreign labour.

Mr. John Morley was yesterday elected a member of the Reform Club by the committee, under the provisions of Rule IV., which empowers them to elect each year as members two gentlemen of distinguished eminence for public service, or science, literature, or arts

THE NORTH ST. PANCRAS ELECTION.

LAST NIGHT'S MEETINGS.

The Tories yesterday issued a placard, "Electors, read the Report." On this point then both parties are agreed. But the Tory "Found Guilty" bill is not now so prominent. The most important Liberal meeting in the evening was at the Kentish-town-road British schools. Mr. Howell Williams presided, and there was a large number of speakers—Mr. H. L. W. Lawson, M.P., Professor Stuart, M.P., the Hon. Bernard Coleridge, M.P., Mr. Arthur Arnold, Mr. Spencer Balfour, M.P., Mr. S. T. Evans, M.P., Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, Mr. J. O'Connor Power, Dr. R. Macdonald, M.P. Another successful gathering was in the Grove House School, Highgate (lent by the principal Mr. Dickinson). Mr. Lawson, M.P., D. Macdonald, M.P., Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, and Mr. J. O'Connor Power spoke in favour of the Liberal candidate. There was a third meeting in the Wilkin-street school-rooms. Professor Stuart, as well as Mr. J. Spencer Balfour, M.P., and Mr. S. T. Evans, M.P., also spoke. The "Liberal-Unionists" had a field-night at the Rochester Hall. Mrs. Henry Fawcett, Mr. Bompas, Q.C., and others support Mr. Graham.

MR. BALFOUR'S BATTERING RAM.

A novel incident of the contest yesterday in North St. Pancras was the exhibition of an Irish battering-ram—"Balfour's rent collector," as somebody in the crowd which first saw it, called it. The "ram" is an importation from Ireland, and an exact pattern of the weapon used all over the country at evictions. It consisted of the usual "tripod," or three beams meeting at the top, and of the "ram" proper or beam slung horizontally by the centre head at the point where the three upright beams meet. This object lesson in the modern government of Ireland was carried about on a four-wheeled trolly measuring twelve feet by seven. Mr. Lamble was in charge of the ram. He drove slowly with it through those of the polling districts occupied by Grafton, and Maitland Park—spending three hours (from two o'clock till five) on his peregrinations. Stopping at street corners, he explained to the crowds which gathered about him how the "rent-collector" did its work.

Another familiar sight is a Home Rule cabman, who is here, there, and everywhere, with his vehicle (his own property, of course) well placarded with Liberal posters. Some of Mr. Bolton's supporters who are shopkeepers, have actually pasted election literature and Irish cartoons all over their window panes, with the effect of hiding their wares from the gaze of passers-by. At a large meeting yesterday at Heathfield, where Mr. Bolton's country residence is, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—"That this meeting of electors and residents of Heathfield in the Eastbourne division of Sussex learns with pleasure and satisfaction of the candidature for North St. Pancras of our resident, Mr. T. H. Bolton, and desires to express its unqualified approval of the same, and its best wishes for his triumphant success at the poll on Tuesday next, believing him to be a thoroughly conscientious politician and a true friend of the people."

THIS MORNING'S REPORT.

(FROM OUR OWN REPORTER.)

The very great success of last night's Liberal meetings has rendered every one hopeful to-day. A number of deputations of Board School teachers and other sections of society have waited upon Mr. Bolton, and have been entirely satisfied with his assurances. The Scottish Liberals in the district have also left their Welsh brethren as to who shall render the most efficient aid to Mr. Bolton's candidature. The Liberal candidate, by the by, has so far recovered his voice that he will do a lot of speaking to-day. He assures me that he is most hopeful, and will be disappointed if the Liberal majority is not a large one. Mr. G. F. Smith, the agent, speaks in the same confident strain. Indeed all the powers that be expressed themselves satisfied with the result of the canvass on this course, although help is largely being given, still more workers will be wanted on Monday—for a general canvass—and on Tuesday, the polling-day—especially if they then bring carriages. There will be no public meetings after to-day. Every moment of Monday will be too valuable to spend even in addressing the largest audience. Then each party will be out for the final lap to joins for the final tug of war. There is to be a Liberal meeting to-night in the Wilkin-street schools, at which Sir George Trevelyan, Mr. Labouchere (who is sure to have a hearty welcome, Mr. R. K. Causton, M.P. (chairman of the London Liberal and Radical Union), and Mr. T. D. Sullivan, "the Irish Laureate," will address the audience. Also the proviso has been made for any number of overflow meetings. The following open-air meetings have also been arranged for this evening—fancy open-air meetings in this weather!—at most of which Mr. Bolton will be present:—

4 P.M. to 6 P.M.	Prince of Wales-road.	8 P.M. to 10	P.M. Mansfield-place.
6 ,, to 7 ,,	Chester-road.	9 ,, to 10.30	,, Malden-road.
6 ,, to 8 ,,	Lismore-circus.	10 ,, to 11	,, Dingley-road.
7 ,, to 9 ,,	Rowley-street.		

Amongst the speakers at these demonstrations will be the following members of Parliament:—Messrs. T. O. Sullivan, W. Abraham, J. Cowen, J. G. S. Macnamara, T. P. Gill, W. J. Lane, D. Crilly, E. Harrington, J. Allanson Picton, James Rowlands, F. S. Stevenson, while there will be whole hosts of Liberal candidate and local leaders. The bands from various metropolitan clubs will march through the constituency this evening in the same fashion at Kennington. It is more than probable that the torchlight bills that hide the nakedness of the Pancras walls that the light is to be an Irish one. One of the most effective of Mr. Bolton's posters is this:—

Five-sixths of the Irish people appeal to you to vote against Calumny, Forgery, Perjury, Pigottism, Coercion, Balfourism, and Shani Unionism; and to vote for Truth, Honour, Justice, Freedom, Home Rule, and Shani Liberalism.

It may be observed that Mr. Graham's bills predominate on the hoardposting stations; but Mr. Bolton's colour predominates in the houses of the people. On the Liberal side every one has buried the hatchet, and is working for Mr. Bolton's success. There is no such division in the camp as the Tories imagine. Liberals of all sorts and conditions, and to such an extent that "to doubt would be disloyalty, to falter would be sin." Mr. Gladstone's letter, which was published yesterday, has been reprinted and largely circulated throughout the constituency, and has been received with marked favour.

There are not many "incidents of the compaign" to report. One is the importation of a model Irish "shebeen" from Dublin, which, I am told, under the superintendence of the Lamble, has no doubt been vowing some undecided electors to renounce the Tory and all his works.

Somebody strained the facts in the statement put forth yesterday that Lord Wolmer addressed Mr. Leigh, his by direction of Lord Hartington. The Dissentient Liberal leader says a Unionist London correspondent has not been involved to get rid of the third candidate in North St. Pancras. The credit is due to Mr. Chamberlain, who in concert with Sir Henry James dispatched Lord Wolmer on a mission which for complete success was too late by ten minutes.

The Tories chief meeting to-night will be at St. Anne's Schools, Bernard-road, Highgate New Town, when Mr. Coningsby Disraeli, Colonel Prideaux and Mr. Comyn Platt will deliver addresses.

THERE WILL BE NO ONE-POUND NOTES.

Mr. Goschen, it is stated on sufficient authority, has entirely for the present abandoned all idea of issuing one-pound notes. Inquiry and observation have shown those whom he has consulted that in the English system the enormous increase in the use of cheques affects to a great extent, and in a manner certainly not less satisfactory, the customary work of notes of small value. But the fact which has had apparently not less influence in leading to this resolution is the constantly increasing use of postal orders effective in the way of a note circulation. There is some question as to whether sufficient precautions have been taken in the style of printing and numbering these orders to secure the State against forgery. Though the circulation is constantly increasing, there are no official complaints of any such difficulty.

MR. PARNELL'S HEALTH.

Mr. Parnell, who has been confined to the house with a severe cold on the chest since the day after Mr. Biggar died—that being the reason why he was not present at the deceased member's funeral procession in London—is much better, and fully expects to be in his place at Westminster again next week.

LORD HARTINGTON.

Lord Hartington, writing from Port Said on the 19th of February to a member of the House of Commons, who received the letter yesterday, speaks of a great improvement in his health, and having spent without fatigue a long day at Pompeii while the steamer *Bengal*, on which he was travelling, was at Naples.

HYPNOTISM IN ENGLAND.

A curious lecture was delivered last night in the Presbyterian Hall at Richmond by Professe Andre, R.R.S., of Sudbrook Park, on the curative use of hypnotism. M. André is well known in Paris as a disciple of Dr. Charcot. The audience, who seemed to take a sincere interest in the proceedings, had been invited to witness a demonstration of the Salpetrière theory, and consisted of the principal medical men, clergymen, &c. of Richmond, Dr. Wilson in the chair. Several experiments were made on one hypnotised patient with singular but satisfactory results. After the lecture free discussion and criticism on the part of those present were invited. Dr. André claims to be able to cure by hypnotic suggestive the worst cases of hysteria, hypochondria, dipsomania, &c.

LAST NIGHT'S SCENE IN PARLIAMENT.

AN INTERVIEW WITH MR. LABOUCHERE.

Mr. Labouchere, on a comfortable seat before a cheerful fire, was reading with great composure the accounts in the morning papers of the violent scene in which he figured last night. What a contrast it seemed between the storm and thunders of that scene only a few hours before in the Legislative Chamber just across the road, and the luxurious privacy in which the expelled and suspended member was now considering the situation.

"I suppose, Mr. Labouchere, you had a definite object when you defied the House? Such an expert in procedure—for you are one of the few members who really know the rules—must have had something to justify himself."

"I have simply to say," was Mr. Labouchere's answer, "that I did not defy the House at all. Mr. Courtney was wrong. I was quite in order."

"But you denied the word of a member of one of the Houses?"

"Certainly; being compelled by the Attorney-General to choose between 'lying' in my case, which I knew to be true, and accepting Lord Salisbury's explanation, which past experience, even without the facts, suggested, was a Salisbury. I did, as you say, deny Lord Salisbury's word. But I had a perfect right to. The thing is this—you may not gratuitously impugn a members' word. But if you have to make charges against a member of either House—if you are making a motion in regard to a Minister's salary, for instance, as I then was—you may say anything which is relevant to that charge. If untruth is the whole gist of it, the charge could not otherwise be made at all. As to what are called the "courtesies and decencies of debate"—"very vague matters, by the way," added Mr. Labouch re, with his blandest smile)—"that is quite another thing. On the point of order I was in the right."

"And the name, Mr. Labouchere? How long it has been suggested—"

But here Mr. Labouchere's face assumed an expression of far-away infixible silence so altogether sphinx-like that it was plainly idle to pursue the point. "As present," he said, "I cannot divulge the name. I knew, I may say, that the Attorney-General would not accept any challeng to read it out himself. He said he would not. I saw then twitching a s coat-tails behind, and whispering awe-struck warnings."

"And in your view how does the matter stand? Will Sir Dighton Probyn speak?"—"We shall see. I don't blame him in the least. He was not a public official with responsibility. He was a friend of Lord Arthur Somerset's family, and was acting in a purely affair of his own. The law in the business. Lord Salisbury's, sufficiently for my immediate purpose, is admitted. It is a question of words, a mere quibble, which is at issue, as to what he actually said. That he did say something, and that something was followed by Lord Arthur Somerset's flight as soon as time had elapsed for him to be informed of its purport, and that then and not till then was the warrant issued for his apprehension. So much was admitted. At present that will do.

WHO WAS MR. LABOUCHERE'S INFORMANT?

After Mr. Labouchere had been ordered to withdraw from the House he informed a representative of the Press Association that he had no intention of disclosing the name of the person who told him what took place at the interview between Sir Dighton Probyn and Lord Salisbury. The Press Association subsequently learned that Sir Dighton Probyn's representative had gathered that the name which Mr. Labouchere wrote on a piece of paper was that of a gentleman well known in Court circles as occupying a position of great responsibility, and as having intimate relations with a member of the Royal family.

The London correspondent of the *Sheffield Independent* writes:—"It is stated on what, I believe, is good information, that the name Mr. Labouchere wrote down on the slip of paper handed across the House towards the Treasury bench was that of the Prince of Wales."

"In the lobby" says the London correspondent of the *Liverpool Courier*, "the name was freely whispered, and that of Sir F. Knolly's was mentioned. Those was no secret about it."

The Central News correspondent to-day says it is understood that the person from whom Mr. Labouchere obtained his account was Sir Francis Knolles. Moreover, it is said that Sir Francis Knollys went to Mr. Labouchere by direction of the Prince of Wales, who was anxious toassist Mr. Labouchere in his effort to dispel the dark cloud of injurious had lying rumour which had gathered round the subject to the detriment of entirely innocent persons. It had been mentioned that Sir Dighton Probyn's interview had passed between Mr. Labouchere and the Prince of Wales, and it was one of the most astonishing things about last night's debate that the Attorney-General should not have been careful to have avoided bringing this fact out into prominence.

LAST NIGHT'S DIVISIONS.

THE UNIONIST VOTE.

Sixteen Liberal-Unionists voted in favour of Mr. Labouchere's suspension from the service of the House of Commons last night. Their names follow:—

Arnstrther, H. T.	Corbett, A. C.	Finlay, R.
Brown, A. H.	Crossman, Gen. SirW	James, Sir H.
Cobb, W. S.	Currie, Sir Donald.	Kenrick, D.
Caldwell, J.	Elliott, H. F. H.	Lubbock, Sir John
		More, R. J.
		Taylor, P.
		Vernon, Hon. G. R.
		Wolmer, Viscount.

All these, with the exception of Mr. Finlay, who abstained, voted in favour of the clause moved by Mr. Forrest Fulton a few minutes before twelve; as also did the extra half-dozen Unionists whose names follow:—

Chamberlain, Right Hon. J.	Coghill, D. H.	Elsington, Viscount.
	Collings, Jesse.	Maclean, F. W.
		Russell, T. W.

These right hon. and hon. gentlemen also went with the majority which carried the vote.

LORD TENNYSON'S HEALTH.

THE HISTORY OF HIS SERIOUS ILLNESS.

The *Athenæum* publishes the following:—

As the somewhat conflicting reports of Lord Tennyson's health have caused universal anxiety, our readers will thank us for stating exactly what he has been suffering from, and what are now the hopes of his recovery. Though the weather in the Isle of Wight has been unusually cold, and fraught with danger even to the most robust people, Lord Tennyson has refused to yield to it—refused to give up his daily two hours' walk along the cliff. On Monday, the 17th ult., however, he was visited by a sharp attack of bronchitis with high fever. On the following day, when (though the fever became moderated) rheumatic gout complications set in, accompanied by extreme debility, Sir Andrew Clark was urgently summoned by telegram, but he could not attend. Apparently the crisis was not passed. But it was not till the 25th (since Lord Tennyson had had for best night since his attack, with quiet sleeping for forty hours at a time) that there was any real alleviation of the grave anxiety in which his family and friends had been plunged. We are happy to say that, up to the time of going to press, the reports of his medical attendant, Dr. Hollis, become more and more favourable. There is still coughing, but it is now almost without the fatigue which a few days ago was so alarming. Nourishment is taken voluntarily and in more solid form, the temperature is normal, and the pulse ranges at seventy-two. In a word, the poet's complete recovery may be confidently hoped for.

Lord Tennyson is no worse

POLICE RAID ON YOUTHFUL GAMBLERS.

Much commotion was excited at Farnworth, near Bolton, last night by the police making a raid on a fried fish shop, where boys had congregated, it is supposed, to gamble. The boys were playing a game called "cod-em," a guessing game when caught. The proprietor, his son, and twelve boys were taken to the police station, and will be charged before the magistrates on Monday. The parents of the boys had complained.

WEST AFRICAN COMPANY AND THE OIL RIVER DISTRICT.

The Liverpool Chamber of Commerce yesterday discussed at considerable length the terms of a memorial which it was proposed to forward to the Prime Minister on the subject of the charter asked for by the West African Company, empowering it to govern the Oil River district. Mr. Edwards, president of the Trade Section, expressed an opinion adverse to the granting of administrative powers, and proposed that the Government be requested not to grant a charter, but to establish there a crown colony. After considerable discussion it was resolved to postpone a final decision till Monday.

SALT FOR THE WORLD FOR 600 YEARS.

The President of the Stockton-on-Tees Chamber of Commerce, speaking at the annual meeting of that body yesterday, said that the Teesside salt field now covered an area of eleven square miles, averaging 70 feet in thickness. In some places the seam was 120 feet thick, and there every acre contained 300,000 tons of salt. There was sufficient salt in the district to supply the whole world for eight hundred years.

THE BELL-COX CASE.

The Lord Chancellor has intimated to the parties in the case of Hakes *v.* Bell-Cox, heard last midsummer, that there will shortly be a rehearing, though whether on all points or only as to whether there is an appeal in a habeas corpus case, is not known.

NEXT WEEK AT THE OLD BAILEY.

The March Session of the Central Criminal Court will be opened next Monday. The calendar is a light one, there being at present only about sixty prisoners for trial. There are two cases of murder, one against a woman named Devan, for killing her child, postponed from the last session, and the charge against a man named Neal, for the murder of his wife, by cutting her throat, at Teddington. There are two charges of shooting with intent to murder, one in connection with the affair at Hensley's Music Hall, and the other the charge against the young woman Elizabeth Vincent, for firing a revolver at Major Isaacs, M.P. It is expected that either Mr. Justice Williams or Mr. Justice Lawrance, the newly-appointed judges, will preside at the approaching session.

THE MURDER OF INFANTS AT WARSAW.

The inquiries into the monstrous case of child killing at Warsaw have already led to most astonishing discoveries. The number of victims amounts to several hundreds, and it has been proved that the criminals had numerous agents in Polish and Russian towns who induced women who were afraid to be anxious to get rid of their newborn children to place them in what they termed "the well-known Skoblinski Institute at Warsaw."

A THAMES TIDE BEATS TIME.

The flood tide in the Thames yesterday morning rose with extraordinary rapidity, and high-water mark was reached at Woolwich two hours before the appointed time. The tide thereupon began to recede, and continued ebbing for an hour and a half, when the flood returned, but fell considerably short of the usual altitude. Several vessels which were waiting to leave their moorings at the ordinary high tide were detained until the afternoon. The occurrence is ascribed to the prevalence of strong contrary gales in the North sea, by reason of which a superabundant body of water was suddenly driven into the river.

TROUBLOUS TIMES IN FRENCH INDO-CHINA.

The latest news from Tonkin is to the effect that the principal rebel band—numbering 400 armed men, of whom 100 are Chinese—had retired from Than Adac northwards to Nyoi Hut, and Colonel Pennequin was about to pursue them. The pacification of the southern region, especially the plain of Ha Zo, is now said to be completed; but this is hardly borne out by the fact that a French merchant, M. D'Argence, who had resided at Mount Bavi, near the Black River, has been murdered together with his wife and son. Doc Tich, the famous chief of the pirates, left by the last mail for France. He is to interpret in Algeria, as having Tonkin he addressed his companions as follows:—"I shall employ all my time in work. I shall study the French and Western civilization generally; and when I come back I shall know how to prove that my submission has been sincere, and that I can render good services."

ANOTHER AFRICAN TRAVELLER ON HIS EXPERIENCES.

Captain Trivier, who lately distinguished himself by traversing the Dark Continent with only a few companions, was entertained last evening by his numerous admirers at a banquet at the Hôtel Continental, Paris. He says that the traders in ivory, who, with the slave-dealers, formerly had in their hands the most profitable branches of commerce, are now encountering various difficulties, which may eventually ruin their chances of realising a fortune. The elephants nefarious from the coasts have taken refuge in the interior of Africa, and are now the property of the Arabs, or rather of Tippoo Tib, who is the real master of the country. This monarch has made a law according to which every person who may kill an elephant is bound to hand one of the tusks over to him, and to sell the other at a fixed price. The native chiefs to comply with this regulation he is shot. "It is a very simple matter, and I saw this done with my own eyes," added the captain. As Europeans have to employ three or four "middlemen" in the purchase of ivory, all this naturally diminishes their profits, and the outlook is consequently far from brilliant. M. Trivier, however, has brought home with him sufficient land for their personal wants, and that this accounts for their disgust when a caravan of whites approaches their village. He himself had no trouble, as he had only a small party with him. After making over his goods to Tippoo Tib he had concluded a bargain with that monarch by which he engaged to pay a certain sum on his safe arrival at Zanzibar, and therefore he was not molested; but when the sum of 600 men, like Mr. Stanley's detachment, arrived at the villages the inhabitants were in a state of terror. The chief, on being asked for supplies replied that he had only enough for himself and his people. Threats were used, and then the villagers fled, spreading the alarm throughout the country. Here and there the travellers were attacked and grave loss to the party was determined. Lack of provisions led to a state of indomitable energy—he was not to be stopped by obstacles. The natives called him the "Breaker of Stones," as he forced his way everywhere.

TORN TO PIECES AND DEVOURED BY SHARKS.

Mail advices from Aden dated the 17th ult, which reached Queenstown yesterday, contain an account of a terrible scene at sea witnessed from the deck of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's ship *Victoria* whilst homeward bound from Australia. A man on the quarter-deck of the steamer between Colombo and Aden a male passenger, whilst labouring under a fit of temporary insanity leaped overboard into the sea. The engines of the steamer were instantly stopped and reversed, and as soon as possible a boat was ordered to be manned and lowered. Whilst the boat was being lowered the forward tackle, through some unknown cause, caught in the after-tackle, precipitating the boat into the sea. There was then painful excitement on board, particularly among the passengers as the fact was generally known there were numerous sharks in the water. A second boat was quickly lowered successfully with a crew of eleven hands, and their difficult task of rescuing their drowning shipmates was watched by those on board the *Victoria*, who were horrified by seeing their unfortunate fellow passenger who had jumped overboard, before he could be picked up, torn to pieces by sharks, and his remains devoured by several sharks, before they could be rescued. The second boat fortunately succeeded in saving the eleven other sailors. The water for a considerable distance around was reddened by the blood of the three unfortunate men who were devoured.

THE ALLEGED COMPACT WITH THE LABOUR PARTY.

Last week Mr. Cuninghame Graham was announced as the labour candidate to contest Greenock on the occasion of the next general election. A communication was thereupon sent to Mr. Macfarlane, the Liberal Whip, stating that interference would be resented. The secretary of the Greenock Radical Association may *believed* on reply, in which Mr. Marjoribanks states that he is astonished at the credence given to newspaper reports about so-called compacts between himself and the labour party, or any other party. He could not, nor would he if he could, interfere with the rights of any constituency to select any candidate they pleased. It was true that he had promised Mr. Cuninghame Graham, M.P., that he would not be rejected if that if any constituency chose to adopt a labour candidate who came up to the programme of the Liberal party he should not use his influence against him. In addition, he would bear testimony to the excellent services rendered in Parliament to the Liberal party by direct labour representatives. He regretted that Scotland had not returned more labour representatives, but Greenock or any other place decided to adopt such a candidate he would consider it his duty to support that candidate all the influence which in his official capacity he could command. No previous denial has been made of the compact alleged to have been arrived at.

MORE SYNDICATES.

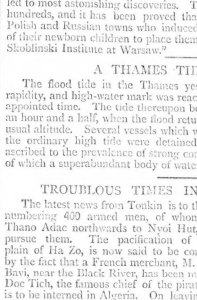
Two new trade combinations are (says the London correspondent of the *Birmingham Post*) in course of formation. One is a chemical union; in the other case the makers, or rather refiners, of sulphur are trying to form an association for the purpose of selling the whole product through one broker. The first is, I am assured, arousing considerable interest in pharmaceutical circles. 1

THE AUSTRALIAN PRIMACY.

The Sydney Diocesan Synod have appointed a committee to act with the Bishops of Australia and Tasmania for the purpose of electing a Primate, says a Reuter's telegram from Sydney last night. This action is regarded as foreshadowing the probable selection of Dr. Saumarez Smith, whose previous election to the Primacy was disputed. Dr. Smith was formerly principal of St. Aidan's College, Birkenhead.

THERMOMETER. FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY. BAROMETER.

South England (with London and Channel).—Westerly to north-westerly winds, moderate; drift, with snow at first; finer later.


High Water London Bridge. Morn. 9 h. 49 m. After. 10 h. 17 m.
Noon to-day
Yesterday
Yesterday
Noon to-day
Sun Rises 6 h. 47 m. 7 h. 22 m.
Sets 5 h. 33 m. 5 h. 58 m.
Full M. 5 h. 6 m.
New M. 20 h. 58 m.

WEATHER AT NOON TO-DAY, March 1, 1890.—Dull, cloudy, with snow; calm.

Readings by NEGRETTI and ZAMBRA'S *Instruments.*

THE MONEY MARKET.

One o'clock.

MARKETS ALL DULL.—CHANGES SLIGHT.—LITTLE FEATURE

There is a fairly good demand for short loans in the open market, and the lending establishments are again asking and obtaining 5 per cent. for this description of borrowing. The downward movement in the discount rate continues, and three months' bank bills are now readily negotiable at 5⅞ per cent., though the nominal quotation is 5⅞ to 4 per cent. Foreign Exchanges have not given way as much as might have been expected, considering the decline in rates here. The New York Exchange is weak, but only a small amount of attention is just now paid to this fact.

The improvement noticeable in the Home Railway department yesterday has pretty well all been lost, the only really firm stocks being Metropolitan and Midland. The correspondence published respecting the relations between the South Eastern and Chatham Companies has had a depressing effect on the market for these securities, and values have given way. In other departments of the Stock Exchange there is little movement of interest. American Railroads are generally lower, though prices have not moved to any appreciable extent. Rumours are sent over from the other side of the Atlantic to the effect that a group of capitalists are forming a combination with English capitalists for the purchase of the Delagoa Bay Railway Concession, which is shortly to be offered at auction by the Portuguese Government. The purchase-money is to be furnished in noticies by each contributor, and the management is to be joint. Trunks and Mexican issues are steady.

The Grand Trunk of Canada revenue statement for the month of January shows an increase in gross of £14,376, in working expenses of £7,875, and in net profit of £6,501; that of the Chicago and Grand Trunk an increase in gross receipts of £1,390, in working expenses of £1,070, and in net profit of £2,060; and in that of the Detroit Grand Haven an increase in gross receipts of £906, in working expenses of £1,300, and a decrease in net profit of £913.

The premium on gold at Buenos Ayres has advanced to 134.75 per cent.

We are officially informed that Mr. William Benjamin Ansell has been declared elected a member of the Stock Exchange.

The list of subscriptions for the issue of £1,000,000 Irredeemable 4½ per cent. Stock of the United States Debenture Corporation (Limited) closes to-day.

The share certificates of the Volcanic Aeration Company, (Limited) 16, Philpot-lane, E.C., will be ready on Tuesday next, March 4, to be exchanged for letters of allotment and all receipts.

The Midland Railway Company will support the proposed amalgamation of the North British Railway Company and the Glasgow and South-Western Railway, on terms set out in a schedule to the bill. The two Scotch Railways in question agree to forward annually by the Midland route, a minimum proportion of English traffic under their control, from Glasgow and places west thereof, to and from London and the south, of the traffic already forwarded by both railways, calculated on a three years' average prior to the 31st January, 1889. The Midland Company further agree to make a fixed monthly payment to the amalgamating companies (based on a three years' average) in lieu of the hitherto fluctuating payment relative to the apportionment of through traffic. On the other hand, the amalgamating companies agree to maintain express passenger and goods trains between Carlisle and Settle and Midland services at Carlisle. It is also agreed to grant the Midland Company running powers between Carlisle, Perth, and Dundee, over such portion of their system as the Midland Company do not at present possess running powers.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing:—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Improved:* Metropolitan and Midland ¼, and North British Preferred ½ per cent. Caledonian ⅛, Chatham Preferred ⅛, Edinburgh and Glasgow ⅛, Great Eastern ⅛, Great Northern Deferred ⅛, Great Western ⅛, Lancashire and Yorkshire ⅛ each.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Advanced:* Italian and Peruvian 1870 and 1872 1-16. *Declined* Egyptian Unified ⅛.

AMERICAN RAILWAYS.—*Risen:* Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary ¾. *Fallen:* Louisville and Nashville ⅝, Erie shares ⅛, Denver Preference, New York Central, Northern Pacific Preference, and Union Pacific shares ¼ each, Milwaukee shares and Norfolk and Western Preference ½ each.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Higher:* Grand Trunk Ordinary Second and Third Preference and Guaranteed ½. *Lower:* Talcal ¾.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Improved:* Elmore Copper ¼, Bell's Asbestos ¼, and Silt Union ½. *Recoiled:* Rio Tinto ⅛.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares:—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.			Great Western	163½	¾ad
Consols (2½) Money	97⅛	⅛	Hull and Barnsley	37½	½
Do. Account	97⅛	⅛	Lanc. and York. ..	124¾	⅝
Do. 1903	99½	100	North Western	173½	174ad
New 2½ per Cents.	96¾	⅜	South Western	134½	⅝
Local Loans 3% Stock	103	⅛	South Eastern	74⅛	¼
India 3½ per Cents.	107¾	⅜	Do. A	47¾	⅜
Do. 4% p.c. Rs. ..	71	¾	Mexico Consolidated	77	½
Egyptian Guar.	101¾	⅜	Do. District	23¾	24
Do. 5% of Set. 33 ..	6		Midland	142½	5¼ad
Met. Pd. Wks. 3½ p.c.	112¾	⅜	North Brit. Pref. ..	77¾	81½
Do. 3 p.c. Sterl. ..	103	½	Do. Def.	62¾	½
Do. 4½ p.c. Deb. ..	111	⅛	North Eastern	157½	½
Leeds 4 per cent. ..	115	17	North Stafford	111	½
Liverpool 3½ p.c. ..	112½	13	South Eastern	129	¾
Manchester 4 p.c. ..	125	6	Do. Deferred..	105¾	¼
			Taff Vale	180	½
COLONIAL SECURITIES.					
Canada 4 p.c. Reg.	107	6	FOREIGN RAILWAYS.		
Canada 5 p.c. Cons.	117	8	Canada Pacific	79½	7
Cape 4 p.c. Cons fns	110½	111½	Can. Pacific Shares	83½	⅝
Ceylon 4 p.c. fns.	102½	103½	Chic. Mil. and St. Pl.	69¾	⅝
Mauritius 4 per Inc.	109	2	Detroit, G. Haven &	19	20½
New Zealand 4½	111½	13	Do. Preference ..	45	47½
N.S. Wales Inc. 1935	113	15	Illinois Shares	116½	17½
" 3½ 1021....	104	7	Lake Shore	107¾	8¾
Newfoundland 6 p.c.	130	⅜	Mexican Central ..	20¾	⅝
Queensland 4 p.c. Ins.	110	11	Mex. Kan. & Texas	20½	Mxd.
S. Austra. 4 p.c. Rest.	109	10	N.Y. Central Shares	103¾	⅝
Victoria 4 p.c. of 1885	111½	13½	New York Ontario ..	19¾	⅝
W. Australian 4 p.c.	103	⅜	N.Y. Rio Grande ..	20¾	⅝
FOREIGN STOCKS.			Do. Second Mort.	103¾	⅝
Argentine 4½ p.c. 1888	78½	9 xd	Norfolk & West. Pref	63½	¼
Do. 5½ pm. Funds.	64¾	65¼	N.Y., P., & O. Ist M.	34	⅛
Do. Cedulas A ..	44	⅝	North Pacific Pref. ..	75	⅛
Do. " B....	8	⅛	Ohio & Mississippi	21¾	21¾
Austrian Gold	95	⅝	Penns'lvania Shs....	55	⅝
" Silver..	74	⅝	Phil. & Read. Sh. ..	20¼	⅝
Brazilian 4½ 1889....	98¾	99	Union Pacific Shares	50¼	⅝
Do. 1st Coup. Cert.	97½	⅝	Wabash Preferred..	31¾	⅜
Do. " Quarter pd	11¾	11 dis	Do. Gen. Mort. ..	69	1
Do. " Half pd	11	⅛	Grand Trunk Rail. ..	41	½
Buenos Ayres 6 p.c. 1888	77	½	Do. First Pref. ..	73½	⅝
" Cedulas 5 p.c.	55¾	4	Do. Second Pref.	59¾	⅝
" " J"	55¾	4	Do. Third Pref.	30¾	⅝
Bulgarian	89½	91½	Do. Guaranteed ..	80¾	⅝
Chilian 4½ pc. 1889	101	2	Mexican Ordinary	30¾	⅝
Costa Rica 6 p.c. ..	87	⅝	Do. First Pref....	117	⅝
" B.....	87	9	Ob. da Sul Pref. ..	73	⅝
Ecuador, New	13¾	⅝	Mexican Central ..	73¾	⅝
Egypt. Sinai Dom. ..	97¾	⅝	Mexican National ..	57¾	61½
Do. Extension	94¼	⅝	Louisiana-Texalian	11¾	12
Egypt. Preference..	104	¾	Minneapolis Railway ..	4	⅝
Do. Daira Sanieh ..	84¾	⅝	Talcal	4	5
French 4½ p.c. Rents	104¾	⅝	Il. Ayres & Rosario	155	70
Do. 3 p.c. Perpetuals	104¾	⅝	Do. Great Southern	109	0
Greek 4 p.c. Gold ..	59¼	⅝	Central Argentine ..	68	70
Egypt. Preference..	104	¾	S. Paulo (Brazil) ..	44	6
Hayti 6 p.c. Bonds ..	78	⅝	BANKS.		
India	99¾	⅝	Alliance Bank	14	15
Mexican 6 p.c. 1888	99¾	⅝	City Bank	22	3
Peruvian 6 p.c. 1872	97¾	⅝	Colonial	50	2
Do. 5 p.c. 1889	89¾	⅝	Consolidated	30¾	⅝
Portuguese	65	⅝	Imperial	19½	20½
Roubles 5 p.c. 1822	89¼	⅝	Imperial Ottoman..	11	5/16 7/16
Spanish 4 p.c.	72	11/16 13/16	London and Brazil ..	68	72
Turkish, 1854.....	103	4	Lloyds	28½	73½
Conv. A	93½	11½	Lon. and Westmin.	69	71
Do. B	93½	11½	London Joint Stock	39	43
Do. D	17¾	18¾	Nat. Prov. of Eng.	37	39
4½ p.c. 1891	97¾	⅝	Provincial of Ireland	24	5
5 p.c. Defence ..	102¾	⅝	Smith, Pk. of S. A.	55	6
5 p.c. Crimea	97¾	⅝	Standard, Lon. & S.	29	31
Ungarg Gold	75¾	4	National Discount ..	113½	12
Do. 6 p.c. 1873 ..	89¾	9½	TRUSTS.		
Virginia Funded	64½	65¼	Fin. & Cl. Gov. Def.	135	40
U.S. 4½ p.c.	109	4 xd	Gov. Sub. Invest. Def.	112	15
BRITISH RAILWAYS.			Lon. and N.Y. Inv.	7	½
Brighton Ordinary ..	102¾	⅝	Scot. Co-operative ..	73	½
Do. A	102¾	⅝	South African Gold	2½	⅝
Chatham Ordinary ..	22¾	⅝	Trans, Em., & Sun.	6¾	⅝
Do. Preference	69¾	⅝	MINING & LAND.		
Cheshire Lines	125	6¼	Indian Con. Gold	2⅝	3⅜
Great Eastern	85¾	4½	Mysore Gold	5⅛	6¼ xd
Great Northern ..	159	2 xd			
Do. A	160	4 xd			

Quicksilver, Pref. ..	2	1/16 3/16
Rio Grande	5¼	⅝
Sanzapa	2	⅛
Standard Barry....	6	6/16 7/16
Rio Tinto	15¾	⅜
Thanks	4½	⅝
Montana	1	3/16 7/16
De Beers	16¾	17⅛
Mashonaland	6¼	6
New Jupers Gold....	15¾	16¼
City and Suburban.	7¾	⅛
Jumper's Gold	4¾	⅝
Jubilee	4⅞	⅝
Robinson	5¾	4
Salisbury.....	6¾	⅞
Sutherland Reef ..	3¼	4
Mex. Land.....	20¾	⅝
Do. New.....	2⅝	3⅛pm
C. P. of Sth. Africa	4	9/16 11/16
Gt. Boulder.....	13	17
Oceana Land.....	11¾	⅝
Southern Land.....	par	¼pm
Transvaal Land	⅜	¾pm

TELEGRAPH & TELEPHONE

Anglo-American	49	50
Do. Preferred	83½	4¾
Brazilian Submarine	12½	13
Direct United States	10	¾
Eastern	13¾	14¼
Do. Extension	13¾	14
Globe Telegraph ..	7	⅝
National Telephone	5	¾

OMNIBUS AND TRAM

Lon. Gen. Om.	125	95 xd
London Road Car. ..	6	⅛
London Street	11¾	15½
London Tramways ..	83	87
North Metropolitan	128¾	¼

WATERWORKS.

Chelsea Waterwks.	250	5
East London	211	15
Grand Junction....	122	7
Kent	180	3
Lambeth	203	6
New River, New ..	150	8
Sthwrk & Vxhall..	164	9
Westminster	210½	11
West Middlesex ..	200	5

GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT

Chartered & Cos A	213	8
Imp. Continental..	219	15
South Metropolitan	220	5 xd
Do. B	230	3 xd
Do. C	230	40 xd
London Electric ..	21½	3
Metropolitan Electric	6¾	⅜

MISCELLANEOUS.

Allsopp's.....	6¾	7 xd
Bell's Asbestos	12	¾xd
Caithness and Sut.	24½	5 xd
Hotchkiss	7	¾
Maxim-Nordenfelt..	2⅜	⅝
Siemens Bros. Pref.	9¾	⅝
Eastman's Ord	16¾	⅝
Edmeston's Copper,8c	6¼	7½
Spratt's Patent	7¾	¼
Tharsis Sulphur ..	20¾	⅝
Colorado Nitrate ..	4	⅜
Primitiva Nitrate..	14¼	15
Rosario	3	4
San Paulo Nitrate ..	4	⅜
San Jorge	6	⅜
San Donato	3¼	⅜
Tamarugal.....	2¾	⅜
United Chinas	12¾	⅝
Crystal Palace Def.	197	202
Royal Mail Steam	71	4
Shaloon's Bap	20	⅝
Stone Canal.....	91	¾
E. & W. India Docks	16	18
Lon. & St. K. Dock	33	⅝

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, and DEATHS.

DEATH.—AUCKLAND.—On the 27th February, at Edenthorpe, William Cooper, fourth Baron Auckland, aged 61.

"Pall Mall Gazette Office."

SATURDAY MORNING.

The ideals of Robert Elsmere did not die with the death of that ardent soul at the end of the third volume. Mrs. Humphry Ward is now engaged, I hear, in transferring some of her plans from fiction to real life. A house has been taken in Gordon-square, where a new sort of Toynbee Hall is to be established, with Mrs. Ward as the high priestess (as it were) of the New Religion. "I don't imagine," as they say in the book, "they will call themselves a Church! something much humbler will do, if you choose to make anything of these suggestions of mine, 'association,' 'society,' 'brotherhood,' what you will." Mrs. Ward's scheme has been widely taken up—amongst others by Dr. Martineau and Mr. Stopford Brooke, and the working of it will be watched with interest by all sympathetic readers of her famous book.

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The Attorney-General must have been an object of pity in many quarters last night, for the cloak of the *Times* obviously clings close to him still. In fact, with a virtuous simper, he practically acknowledged that he did not expect some members to believe his statements—though his veracity he was perfectly willing to submit to the House. His greatest hit was when he retorted upon Mr. Labouchere that he could not get lords "to do his dirty work." But it was not long before he turned the tables completely upon himself, with the (of course unpremeditated) observation that "he would not subject persons to these horrible accusations on the whispers that came from clubs, or on the paragraphs inserted in newspapers, for the purpose of making them sell." The Opposition below the gangway instantly seized the point, and by their pointed ironical cheers made it tell with terrible force against Sir Richard Webster. It was a miserable minute for the poor Attorney-General.

***

It will be long before that little parliamentary interlude, "The Scrap of Paper," is forgotten in the Commons. In the Press Gallery whispers of a story (at the time denied, on something like authority) of an interview on the part of the Prince of Wales with Mr. Labouchere over the matter of the scandals began to go round again; and in that exalted region the controversy raging below resolved itself into one of "Prince *versus* Premier." Mr. Labouchere played his part splendidly, and the manner and matter of his departure would make a capital cartoon for the lobbies of Parliament—say, of the House of Lords.

***

J. D. Christie, the writer of the article, "A Working Man's Reply to Professor Huxley," in the March *Nineteenth Century*, is a master cook and confectioner in Edinburgh.

***

Sir George Campbell is always discovering something, and now he has found out, and has embodied the discovery in a parliamentary question, that Scotland is "that northern part of Britain which has such distinctive institutions, laws, and nomenclature as are not understood by the more southern branches of the Anglian and Celtic races." For conciseness and precision there has been nothing to rival this since Dr. Johnson in his dictionary defined Network as "anything reticulated or decussated at equal distances with interstices between the intersections." To think that we have been calling the country merely Scotland all these years!

***

Yesterday the federated dames of the Liberal Associations were gathered in council within the sacred precincts of the National Liberal Club. Is this the first dim earnest of a period when the barriers will be swept away which keep that institution as exclusively masculine as the halls of "The Princess" were sacred to the other sex?

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The power of concentrating the mind on one subject, which, according to Lord Brougham, is the principle of the first element of success, might be practised with advantage in the camp of the Women's Liberal Association. The speeches yesterday were excellently to the point almost without exception, but while the platform speakers had mastered the art, the questions and interruptions by some of the delegates showed that the importance of the rule, "one thing at a time, and that well done," is not yet sufficiently understood in the ranks of the valiant and useful army of lady politicians.

***

The statement that another epidemic, also of the "new malady" kind, is following in the wake of the influenza, is almost too bad to be true. Its symptoms are a feeling of paralysis in the limbs and a tendency to lethargic sleep; but whereas the grippe was born, bred, and baptised in Russia, the "nona" has its home in the Southern regions where Caliban's dam Sycorax brushed "wicked dew" from unwholesome fens. Several cases are reported from Milan, and a scare of the disease, which seems to prove often fatal, is spreading through all Lombardy.

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The Duke of Bedford deserves the thanks of all advocates of cremation. After having built for his own use a small crematorium near the building which the Cremation Society of England has erected at Woking, his Grace, as appears from the society's seventeenth report, has contributed £4,100 to the funds of the society. The growth of opinion in favour of cremation is represented by the fact that during the past year forty-six cremations have taken place at Woking, while the total number during the preceding five years amounted only to fifty-four.

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The overcrowding of omnibuses is again becoming an intolerable nuisance. The private 'buses are the worst offenders, and what is wanted is prompt action on the part of the police. Lady passengers are the most inconsiderate. They will persist in entering a vehicle when every seat is occupied, knowing very well that if some of the old gentlemen inside were to go outside "to oblige" they would catch their deaths of cold. If the said old gentlemen do not rise the intruders behave as martyrs, and cause general discomfort and distemper. This overcrowding is cruelty to human beings as well as to the wretched draught animals.

***

The village of Dafia, on the Island of Lesbos, can boast of an old lady who is thirty-one years older than "the oldest inhabitant of Austria." She is a devout daughter of Islam, and has the complete use of all her senses. The island of Sappho must be favourable to longevity, for it contains three other inhabitants who have passed considerably beyond the hundredth year. A certain Ismail Apa is 130 years old; Khalil Apa is in his 119th year; and Aschik Baba has just reached his 115th year. What is most remarkable in these three male centenarians, according to the correspondent of a Berlin paper, is that they are all obliged to work to earn their daily bread.

***

The success of the Welsh service in St. Paul's cathedral last night must have been very gratifying to Sir John Puleston—who read the first lesson, we may remark, admirably—and to the Rev. Killin Roberts, the Welsh chaplain at All Saints', Margaret-street, on whom the chief burden of the arrangements fell. The chief feature was the large attendance of Nonconformists, as evidenced by the lack of Prayer Books; but the singing was admirable. The numbers were considerably in excess of those who hang on Canon Liddon's lips when he is in residence; and the sermon was assuredly worthy of the occasion.

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The Bishop of St. Asaph preached with considerable energy, and the substance of his sermon was an appeal to unity. He argued that a common country and a common language formed a bond of union, while he believed that the boon of the Intermediate Education Act, if wisely and liberally used, would form another strong element of unity in the Principality. The happiest portion of the sermon, however, was that in which, in nervous language and with intense earnestness, the Bishop pleaded for an amelioration of the homes of the working men in Wales, and he said emphatically that the patriotism which could not provide labourers with cottages "weather-proof and clean, and with here and there tokens of refined life, was stale and sorry stuff." His lordship also advocated rooms in every parish where the working folk could "meet to talk without tippling, to discuss without wrangling, and to enjoy the best books and literature of the day as well as innocent games and amusements."

Bord's Pianos.—£3 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES AND CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

THE HOURS OF TRAM AND BUS MEN.

AN EARLY MORNING MEETING.

At an early hour this morning a meeting of tram and 'bus employés was held in the Effra Hall, Brixton, to support the Twelve Hours Day Bill, which will shortly be brought before Parliament in the interests of men employed upon trams and omnibuses. Mr. Richard Stapley presided, being supported by Dr. Thompson Hayne, Mr. T. Sutherst, the Rev. Mr. Morris, and others. There was a large attendance. The chairman said several cases of hardship involved by the long hours of men of the class of those before him had come under his notice lately. He had visited one or two hospitals and had heard from doctors that men were frequently admitted suffering from varicose veins and swollen limbs caused by overwork on trams and 'buses. Dr. Thompson Hayne, in moving a resolution pledging the meeting to support the bill prepared by Mr. Sutherst, stated that he had recently been consulted by a patient who was a 'bus conductor, and who was frequently so exhausted on finishing his day's work as to faint away immediately he left the 'bus. He called upon all members of Parliament to support a bill which would reduce the men's hours from sixteen or seventeen to twelve daily. Mr. Sutherst, in supporting the resolution, said the directors of the London Road Car Company at their annual meeting had expressed their desire to shorten the hours of their employés, and their willingness to grant the twelve hours a day if the London General Omnibus Company would do the same. The latter company, therefore, blocked the way to this reform, and he hoped the travelling public would notice that fact. He trusted a twelve hours bill would soon compel those monopolists to do justice to their men. The resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

THE WELSH SERVICE AT ST. PAUL'S.

St. David's Eve at St. Paul's Cathedral witnessed a new departure. Thousands of Welshmen, and a fair sprinkling of Englishmen, joined in a choral service of great beauty, reflecting great credit on the Rev. K. Roberts, Welsh curate of All Saints', Margaret-street, who sang the service, and has performed the no mean feat of educating the English choristers of that church to sing Welsh. The greater part of the choir however, was composed of Welshmen, who, with some twenty Welsh clergy, entered the cathedral in procession, singing a hymn which was a kind of paraphrase of "The Church's One Foundation." The first lesson was read by Sir John Puleston, M.P., and the second by the Dean of St. Asaph, who, with the Archdeacon of St. Asaph, were the Bishop's chaplains. Mr. David J. Thomas, organist and choirmaster of Hanover Church, Regent-street, and honorary organist at the Welsh services at All Saints, played on the organ the "March of the Men of Harlech," much gratifying the Welshmen; while all musical folk were delighted with the Offertoire in C (Batiste) and the Slow March in F (Edmund Rogers). The Psalms were sung to Gregorian tones; the *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis* to Bennett in F. The anthem (which was conducted by Mr. Dyned Lewys) was an old Welsh one, "Sing unto the Lord" (Ambrose Lloyd). The solo singers were Mrs. Lloyd, Madame Annie Williams, and Mr. Sackville Evans. The hymns were sung to popular Welsh tunes.

The Bishop of St. Asaph gave an excellent sermon on unity. Its tone was sympathetic and charitable; the manner was good, and the language quite poetical. The part which seemed to excite the utmost interest among the members of Parliament present and the Nonconformists was that in which he pleaded eloquently for the better housing of the Welsh poor, and for the Church interesting herself in the social life and amusements of the people. The Bishop of St. Asaph is known and beloved in Wales, not only for his distinguished brother's sake (the late Dean of Bangor), but for his own. He is at present little known in England; but few who heard last night's sermon can doubt that he will make his mark as a Church leader in the Principality. The sight, as seen from the St. Paul's pulpit, was one which might well move a more unusual man than the Bishop, and he evidently felt the unique character of the occasion. A sea of Welsh faces, stretching far beyond the dome, was turned on the youthful prelate, and drank in eagerly words in their well-loved native language which spoke to them of the many interests in which they had taken so lively a concern in their youth, before they became almost overwhelmed in the whirl and bustle of London life. "The man who was not moved at such a scene as this must hardly be human," was the observation of an old Welsh lady in a characteristic Welsh bonnet.

MUSICAL MEMS.

Apropos of the recent discussion on Musical Reminiscences in the columns of "the oldest musical paper," has any one noticed that the second subject of the 'cello Concerto in A minor, which is Herr Brahms's Hall this afternoon is practically identical with a song which has recently gone the rounds of the London music-halls? We acquit Herr Brahms of intentional plagiarism.

***

The arrangements at the Alexandra House on the occasion of the last concert of the Royal College of Music were very unsatisfactory. The programme was an excellent one, but the management issued more tickets of invitation than the corresponding space in the concert-room would accommodate. The consequences were very unpleasant to the majority of the audience. We hope that as Sir George Grove was, for once in a way, absent, the matter will be brought to his notice.

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The seven weeks' season which the Carl Rosa Opera Company has just completed at Liverpool has been one of the longest and most profitable they have ever enjoyed. The programme of the four weeks at Drury Lane, as now arranged, will include the English version of Gounod's "Roméo et Juliette," which was produced at Liverpool in January with Mr. McGuckin as Romeo, Miss Zelié de Lussan as Juliet, Mr. Celli Mercutio, and Mr. Abramoff Friar Lawrence; Goring Thomas's "Nadeshda," with the same company produced at Drury Lane in 1888; Vincent Wallace's "Lurline," Meyerbeer's "Star of the North," and "Robert the Devil," first performed in 1888; and such perennial favourites as "Carmen" (Miss de Lussan), and "Lohengrin." The score of the new Scandinavian opera, by Mr. Joseph Bennett and Mr. F. H. Cowen, is receiving its final touches, and the chief parts have been distributed among Mr. Barton McGuckin Mr. Leslie Crotty, Miss De Lussan, and Madame Tremelli. A closer acquaintance with the score reveals the fact that Mr. Cowen's music is much more dramatic than that which we are accustomed to from his pen. It is a pity that Mr. Harris cannot find a place in his répertoire for Professor Stanford's "Canterbury Pilgrims," which was given for the first time, if we mistake not, six years ago.

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Mr. Comey Grain will write the music for the new first piece which will succeed the "Verger" at St. George's Hall. The music is of a light and unambitious character, all Mr. Grain aims at being "tune." The favourite social satirist has written the music for six other pieces for the German Reed's Entertainment, all of a light character. The action of the present operetta (by Mr. Malcolm Watson) takes place in Spain, and consequently two of the numbers are imitations of Spanish music.

***

We are threatened with another musical club. Some enterprising club proprietor is so encouraged by the success of the two existing musical clubs, that he has determined to pay them the highest form of flattery, and found a "Ballad-singers Club," with headquarters at the galleries of the Royal Society of British Artists in Suffolk-street.

***

Lovers of the violin are rejoicing in the certain return to London this year of Mons. Isaye, and the possible reappearance in England this season of the wonderful Wilhelmj. Mons. Isaye is the talented performer who made such an extraordinary sensation at a Philharmonic concert last year; and Herr Wilhelmj is too well known to need anything further than the announcement to create considerable interest.

A NEW MODE OF SALUTING IN THE NAVY.

The Admiralty have determined to introduce a new kind of saluting in the navy. Up to date sailors have saluted their officers by raising their hats. In future they will bring the hand up to the head after the military fashion, only with the side of the hand to the front instead of the palm. The reason for the change is not obvious—it may be due either to a mere desire to abolish old customs, or to a fear that raising the hat may give the men colds in the head.

AN INQUIRY BY LORD CROSS AT OXFORD.

Lord Cross has been paying a visit to Oxford, to investigate the conditions under which Indian Civil Service probationers are received and taught at Oxford. He is stated to have come to the conclusion that any alterations in the Civil Service regulations should have for one of their objects further encouragements to students to spend two or three years at the University. The main object of the new rules will be to make the examination a test of real mental ability and careful training, and not, as at present, of successful examining.

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A cogwheel railway is being projected up the Rittnerhorn in the Southern Tyrol. The Rittnerhorn is 2,258 metres high, situated not far from Bozer.

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The objections of Castle Gardens managers have been finally overruled, and henceforth emigrants will be landed at Bedloe's Island in New York Harbour, far away from the "land sharks."

"CLEANING KILLER."—All difficulty in keeping silver, electro-plate, &c., untarnished and with a brilliant polish, may be obviated by using GODDARD'S NON-MERCURIAL PLATE POWDER. Sold everywhere, in boxes 1s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d. Four Gold Medals awarded.

DR. HUBERT PARRY AT THE ROYAL INSTITUTION.

Dr. Parry at the Royal Institution last night began by stating that all evolution was a change from the homogeneous to the heterogeneous, and that music, in common with everything else, had shared this change. For instance, the history of the scale was simply the history of the possible number of sounds, standing in definite relation to one another, which could be evolved from what was originally a nebulous chaos of sound. One of the most important things which had assisted to bring about this result was the discovery of fourths. One of the principal causes of music being at a standstill from the XVth to the XVIth century was that musicians were hampered by the old scale and the consequent absence of key relationship. One of the earliest forms of harmony was for singers to sing the same melody in thirds, or fourths, or fifths. When their ears had become sufficiently cultivated to perceive the hideousness of these progressions, they began to ornament the melody with notes forming other intervals, but still maintaining the underlying principle of bald fifths and fourths. Eventually they began to look at music perpendicularly (or harmonically) instead of horizontally (or contrapuntally); whence of course arose the necessity of a single scale. Dr. Parry then sketched briefly the history of opera and instrumentation from the tentative work of Monteverde to the modern music-drama of Richard Wagner, in whose orchestra every instrument, from the piccolo to the contrafagotto, had its own separate, well-defined function. Probably no revolution in art had ever been set about so deliberately as this. Dr. Parry then showed how the sonata form, as we have it exemplified in Beethoven's greatest works, had been gradually evolved from the simple dance form. In conclusion, the lecturer declined to say whether music was at the present time advancing from the heterogeneous to the homogeneous state, from integration to dissolution; but he made the significant remark that the tendency of modern audiences was to allow their feeling for colour to deaden their sense of form. It will be seen from the foregoing that if Dr. Parry contrived to say nothing new on an old subject, he applied the generalizations of Mr. Herbert Spencer to music in a very able manner.

A WORK ON JOHN HUSS CONFISCATED.

A great sensation has been caused by the confiscation, at Prague, of a work on the Bohemian reformer, John Huss. The title of the work reads thus:—"Master John Huss at the Council of Constance; his defence, his sentence, and his death at the stake, in 1415." At Czaslau the authorities have refused their consent to a proposal made in the Town Council that one of the streets in the town should be named after the reformer.

AN ANTI-SLAVERY FUND.

The King of the Belgians has subscribed £1,500 and the Belgian Congo missionaries £1,000 towards the Brussels Anti-Slavery Society's projected expedition against slave raiders on Lomami and Tanganyika.

THE FRESCOES OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

For some years there have been evidences of great decay in the frescoes of the House of Commons, and nothing has been done to arrest the effacing finger of Time. In the vestibule of the committee corridors the decay is especially noticeable. Of the eight allegorical frescoes six are almost beyond identification. The paint has peeled off the stonework in large patches, and what were once faces are now nothing but grey botches. "The Death of Marmion," and the scene from Milton, where Satan is touched by Ithuriel's spear, have suffered more than the others, and were it not for the inscription their portent would not be known. Many experts have tried to ascertain the cause of the decay, and they have failed to do so.—*Manchester Courier.*

DOMESTIC SLAVERY IN TURKEY AND PERSIA.

The committee appointed to deal with the importation of black slaves into the Turkish and Persian dominions met (writes the Brussels correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*) on Thursday. A hot discussion immediately began between Caratheodori Effendi, Turkish Minister, and the President, M. Lambermont, on the Belgian scheme. Caratheodori read the Turkish firman promulgated on December 30 prohibiting importation, the traffic in, or the transit of black slaves throughout Ottoman territory, and stated that Turkey was ready to endorse all the provisions of the Belgian scheme which were consistent with that firman, but would not touch nor allow to be touched the vested rights of the present slave proprietors in Turkey, inasmuch as the said slaves were well treated and far happier than they would be if freed and returned to Africa. In short, Turkey is ready to prevent any possible importation of fresh slaves, but strenuously opposes the liberation of those now held. M. Lambermont pointed out that this would amount to officially sanctioning the principle of slavery. The debate was adjourned until Monday. Meanwhile the committee voted clause 2, about which there was no difference, and which provides for the liberation and return to Africa of slaves intercepted in course of importation.

THE QUESTION OF SOLDIERS' RATIONS.

The question of the soldiers' rations is at the present time engaging the very close and earnest attention of Mr. Stanhope and his colleagues at the War Office, who have before them the report of the Rations Committee. There are several rather serious difficulties in the way of giving effect to that report, but the London correspondent of the *Birmingham Gazette* believes that before very long Parliament will be informed of a scheme which will improve the rations of the private soldier, both with respect to quality and quantity.

SOUTH KENSINGTON WOMEN'S LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday evening the members of the Holland ward branch of this Association met, by the invitation of Mr. Thompson Whelpton, at 62, Addison-road, to hear Mr. E. F. V. Knox, of the Eighty Club, speak on "Land Nationalization." After some remarks from Mr. Maxwell, the following resolution was carried:—"That this meeting is of opinion that an adequate measure of land reform is urgently required, but is not prepared to adopt the principle of land nationalization as a solution of the land question." The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to Mrs. Oscar Wilde, who presided.

MR. DICKINSON'S PORTRAIT OF JOHN BRIGHT.

A friend of Mrs. Duncan McLaren, living in London, yesterday gave (the London correspondent of the *Manchester Examiner* says) an interesting and recent letter from that lady with regard to Mr. L. Dickinson's portrait of her late brother, Mr. John Bright. "I am staying," writes Mrs. Duncan McLaren, "at the house of my nephew, John Thomasson, of Woodside, Bolton. A portrait of my brother, John Bright, hangs in the spacious hall, by Mr. Lewis Dickinson. It is very favourably hung. A light falls upon it from above, and a chastened side light also from the painted hall window. It is a marvellous production, and represents my brother in his best attitude. He used to say to me that no portrait of him could please his sisters critical and partial eye, and I must say I could not suggest any alteration or improvement in this portrait. While I look at it, he seems to be still with me, and I can recognize in it every mood of his mind. I remember saying this to Mr. Dickinson when I saw it years ago in his studio in London, but I am even more impressed with it now. It ought to be where the world can see it, but I rejoice to think it exists to adorn the comparatively quiet home of liberal thought and true Christian principles. We are indebted to Mr. Thomasson's father, the late Thomas Thomasson, a great friend of my brother's, for this portrait, as he engaged Mr. Lewis Dickinson to paint it. Sometimes as I look at it I long to make some public mention of its truthfulness, as the time is fast approaching when there will be no one left to say which of his many portraits was really a true representation of him."

***

Mr. Parnell is reported to be better in health, and is expected to be in his place at the House of Commons next week for the great debate.

***

The Alaska seal contract, according to general belief, has been given to the North American Company.

***

The draft "New Creed" of the English Presbyterians proposes, it is said, to describe the Bible simply as "the Word of God," notwithstanding the energetic attempts of the latitudinarian section to interpolate the word "contains." The question will be discussed at a meeting next week.

***

It is denied that Mr. Charles Wilson, M.P., has bought Lansdowne House for £300,000, but it is said to be true that he made a big offer for this famous shrine of Whiggism. The Viceroy of India, of course, declined to sell the family property.

***

The following dates have been fixed for the principal May meetings:—Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, May 1; Baptist Union, May 1 and 2; Wesleyan Missionary Society, May 3; National Temperance League, May 5; Church Missionary Society, May 6; Bible Society, May 7; Church Pastoral Aid Society, May 8; Church of England Sunday-school Institute, May 13.

***

The Marquis of Lothian, Secretary for Scotland, and President of the Edinburgh Exhibition, has accepted an invitation to a dinner on March 28, to meet the Lord Mayor of London, the Lord Provosts of Edinburgh and Glasgow, Sir T. Clark, chairman of the executive, and the members of the London Committee of the Exhibition, of which Sir George Chubb is chairman.

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THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.

PROGRAMME.

The programme of the International Conference for regulating factory and mining labour is officially published yesterday. The chief points are :—

1. The regulation of work in mines with reference to the question of prohibiting the labour of women and children underground.
2. The shortening of shifts in particularly unhealthy mines.
3. The possibility of assuring a regular output of coal by subjecting labour in the mines to international rules.
4. The regulation of Sunday labour.
5. The regulation of children's labour.
6. The regulation of the work of lads.
7. The regulation of female labour.—*Reuter.*

THE MANUFACTURE OF DYNAMITE GUNS.

The Graydon dynamite gun and torpedo-thrower (15in. calibre, and throwing 600 lb. of dynamite a distance of three miles), now being built by Messrs. Taunton, Delmard, Lane, and Co., of Heneage-street, Birmingham, has just been inspected by deputations of officers representing the Japanese War Board and the Roumanian Government. There are five European Governments now awaiting the completion of this 15in. dynamite gun—viz., Russia, Turkey, Spain, Italy, and Roumania—and the work is being pushed forward with a view to have a general demonstration of the working of the gun under the auspices of the English Government. Lieutenant Graydon, under whose immediate supervision the work is being carried on, hopes to succeed in doubling the range attained by the Zalinski gun and in making his weapon handy for training and elevating, the extreme length and unwieldiness of the Zalinski being one of the great obstacles to the adoption of that type of dynamite gun. A statement has recently gone the round of the papers that the British Government has purchased the Zalinski gun, and is having fifty built at Woolwich. Lieutenant Graydon informs us that his syndicate has received from the War Office a direct contradiction of this rumour.

THE L.C.C. LICKING ITSELF INTO SHAPE.

"The members of the London County Council," writes the London correspondent of the *Manchester Examiner*, "are not getting along with their work in a manner entirely satisfactory to themselves. At any rate there is to be a meeting of the members of the Progressive party to-day, which in itself means to be an admission that a feeling of that kind exists and that matters are not going smoothly. One difficulty is the division of committee into sub-committees, which the members do not attend sufficiently often to get through the increasing and accumulating work. Then again the number of subjects which have to be dealt with by the Council, and the impossibility of members making themselves acquainted with all the different subjects on which they have to vote, often leads them to vote hastily and unadvisedly, or perhaps not at all. It is admitted, too, that more foresight is necessary than at present exercised by members in the matters of finance. What the Progressive party desire, and what they will endeavour to bring about at their meeting is an organisation such as exists in the House of Commons, so that both parties on the Council can be in communication with each other through their representative whips thereby preventing hasty and inconsiderate voting and needless party disputes."

SIR JAMES KIRKPATRICK'S BANKRUPTCY.

At the London Court of Bankruptcy yesterday the public examination was held of Sir James Kirkpatrick, until recently a clerk in the Admiralty, and the present holder of the baronetcy of Closeburn. At the first meeting a proposal was accepted for the payment of £250 in satisfaction of the debts. Sir James said that he had been interested in a fund of £30,000, and for some years had enjoyed an income of £1,200 a year. His difficulties were chiefly occasioned by large advances which he had made on behalf of relatives. The examination was concluded.

DOM PEDRO ON BRAZIL.

A Central News telegram from New York says there is published there an interview which the editor of the Buenos Ayres *Nacion* has had with Dom Pedro, and which first appeared in that journal. His late Majesty regards Señor Bocayura, Minister of Foreign Affairs, as the right man for his post, and one who will secure Brazil's influence abroad. He estimates the other members of the Provisional Government as patriots, and expresses his willingness to serve them and the country even while in banishment. Whilst being without any intention of issuing a manifesto or bringing about intestine strife in Brazil, Dom Pedro expressed himself as being always ready to subject himself to the will of the people, though he declined to state whether he would return to the throne if recalled. He thinks the people of Brazil are prepared for a Republican form of government.

THE ARMENIAN PATRIARCH AND THE PORTE.

Monsignor Achikian, the Armenian Patriarch, delivered on Thursday to the Porte a special note demanding the immediate and complete restoration of the privileges of the Armenian Church, and the execution of the reforms in Armenia promised by the Treaty of Berlin.—*Reuter.*

THE AUSTRIAN ANTI-ANARCHIST LAW.

In the Lower House of the Austrian Reichsrath yesterday Count Taaffe, the Premier, declared that, in view of the present quiet character of the Social Democratic movement, the Government would consider the expediency of partially repealing the existing exceptional regulations for the preservation of public order in the capital, provided that the Anti-Anarchist Bill before the House should be passed. A total abolition of the exceptional legislation, however, was impossible at present.—*Reuter.*

THE SOUTH LONDON TRAMWAYS COMPANY.

Mr. Samuel J. Wilde presided at the half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the South London Tramways Company, at Cannon-street Hotel, yesterday. Gross receipts, according to the report for the year, were £37,275, an increase of £1,867 over the corresponding period of last year. The number of passengers carried was 8,205,942, against 7,623,455 for the like period in 1888. The actual profit was £6,188, and, after paying 5 per cent. preference dividend, a balance equal to 2s. 6d. only remained for ordinary shares on the left. Owing however, to insufficient working capital, the amount which would be otherwise available for the payment of the dividend on the ordinary shares was all absorbed in stores and materials. For this reason it would be impracticable to pay a dividend on the ordinary shares at the present time. The chairman thought their future depended on increasing the traffic. The company had, he said, made wonderful progress during the past four years. In 1885 they had thirty-five passing-places, and now they had eighty-three. But for this increase they could not have held their own against severe competition, both steamboat and 'bus. Then they would have shown a marked increase in profit but for the reduction in fares. He urged that but for the action of local authorities in various districts compelling them to do a very great deal more than the General Tramways Act required to be done—in many cases putting the company to vast expense without, he might say, doing the ratepayers of the parish any particular good—their capital would have been about £25,000 more than it was. Quoting the recent case of the Bristol Tramways, the chairman observed that local authorities all over the country abused their powers in a most frightful way. The accounts and report were adopted.

THE ALLEGED WIFE MURDER AT CHELSEA.

John Thomas Lawrence, forty-five, cat's meat vendor, having a small shop in Lower North-street, Chelsea, was charged on remand before Mr. Shiel yesterday with the wilful murder of his wife Sophia, by throwing a knife at her on the 20th inst. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against the prisoner. To-day he was committed to the Old Bailey for trial for wilful murder. He reserved his defence.

THREE MONTHS FOR "WINKING AT THE PIG."

Edward McGinley, of Kilult, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment, in default of giving bail, at Falcarragh on Thursday, for alleged intimidation of pig-buyers, for the purpose of preventing them from dealing with one Charles Gallagher. The evidence was that the defendant had "winked at the pig," and so directed attention to it.

MUSIC HALL SINGERS AND THE COUNTY COUNCIL BILL.

Two well-known music-hall singers, Mr. Charles Coborn and Mr. Macdermott have convened a meeting of their comrades to discuss the County Council Bill for the regulation of places of entertainment. The place of meeting is the Middlesex Music Hall, and the time three o'clock on Monday afternoon. Mr. Macdermott impresses on his colleagues, whether in theatres or music-halls, that they have to do with "a bill that affects all persons engaged at, or connected with, places of amusement much more deeply than many of them imagine."

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THE GOVERNMENT AND MR. LABOUCHERE.

THE Government received a severe check last night in their progress through supply. Mr. Labouchere is not a man to be baulked of his purpose; his long threatened attack was sufficiently dramatic in its execution. Perhaps any amount of the plainest speaking is better than the whispered scandals of the last months. This seemed to be the general impression of the House, and though Mr. Maclure called the attention of the House to the fact that strangers were present, the motion that they should withdraw was negatived without a division. The Ladies' Gallery had, however, already been cleared. A long wrangle arose on a question of procedure in connection with the Vote on Account and the grouping of Estimates. Loud protests were raised by Mr. Morley and Sir Ughtred Kay-Shuttleworth, and Mr. Buchanan was put up to move the adjournment of the House. After a statement from the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the new arrangement was merely a matter of convenience the motion was adjourned, and the empty House rapidly refilled when Mr. Labouchere rose to move the reduction of the first vote in supply in order to draw attention to the Cleveland-street scandals.

MR. LABOUCHERE'S CASE.

Mr. Labouchere had a difficult task in breaking the silence of Parliament on such a subject. His speech was a model of brevity and compressed statement, though it must be admitted that it often erred on the side of levity and extravagance of accusation. His general case was that the Government wished to hush the whole matter up, and he charged them with taking the following steps in the hushing process: (1) they had made a corrupt bargain in the cases against Veck and Newlove, lightening their sentences in order to avoid a trial and the consequent exposure of more exalted personages; (2) they had helped Hammond to escape from justice; (3) they had discouraged the police from taking action in the case of Lord Arthur Somerset, withdrawing the constable who had followed him to the Duchess of Beaufort's funeral, refusing to prosecute when advised by the police, referring the matter quite unnecessarily to the highest Law-officers of the Crown, and arranging the questions to the witnesses at the Treasury inquiry in such a manner as to avoid implicating any higher powers. These higher powers are, however, Mr. Labouchere explained, in no way connected with the Royal Family, as has been falsely rumoured. (4) That *Lord Salisbury had deliberately, in an interview with Sir Dighton Probyn on October* 18, 1889, *intimated to him, and he afterwards to Lord Arthur Somerset, that a warrant was about to be issued*, and that it was owing to this information that Lord Arthur Somerset fled the country the very same day. (5) Mr. Newton had been chosen as a scapegoat. Let them meet these charges straight, and not with "evasive chicanery." Mr. Labouchere ended with an appeal for a committee.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S CASE.

"More disgraceful charges if true, and more disgraceful if false, were never made in this House." Cheers and counter-cheers from a House excited to fever-pitch by the definite and sensational statement of Mr. Labouchere met the proem of the Attorney-General. The rather a long discussion on his responsibility, duty, and reputation, to which the House listened very impatiently, Sir Richard Webster plunged into the heart of the business. From the 21st July, 1889, he assured us, everything in this matter had been under his direction alone. This was honest enough, and the general impression left by Sir Richard's speech as a whole was that of a thoroughly honest, though rather too flabby, statement of the Government case. "Evasive chicanery" it certainly was not. His general case was that every one, rich or poor, high or low, had been brought to justice as soon as there was sufficient evidence on which to act. Taking Mr. Labouchere's charges categorically, he replied: (1) That he had the direct statement of the counsel in the Marlborough-street case that no bargain had been made at all—much less a "corrupt bargain." (2) They could not arrest Hammond before he fled. They had no evidence against him. (3) Similarly with Lord Arthur Somerset. "It was not until November 6 that I came to the conclusion that Lord Arthur Somerset could be arrested." (The warrant issued, November 12: Salisbury's interview, October 18.) Twice (in August and September) the Attorney-General consulted the Lord Chancellor, and on both occasions they agreed as to the insufficiency of the identification of Lord Arthur Somerset. But he had done the same in Veck's case. There was no arrangement of questions at the Treasury inquiry. (4) A great hush fell on the House as the Attorney-General approached the grave accusation against Lord Salisbury. After bitterly criticising Mr. Labouchere for not raising it in the other House—("I do not keep lords in my pocket,"—"No, not to do dirty work")—the Attorney-General read to the House Lord Salisbury's statement of what happened at the interview. The essential point of the letter was that he had said no word as to the date of the issue of the warrant. But, said the Attorney, triumphantly, let Mr. Labouchere state his authority for his charge.

A SCRAP OF PAPER.

Mr. Labouchere here rose and offered to write the name of the authority on a piece of paper and hand it to the Attorney to be used at discretion. The Attorney at first paid no attention, and afterwards, when pressed by Mr. Labouchere—holding out the paper in his hand, and advancing across the House—entirely refused to take the responsibility off Mr. Labouchere's shoulders. So far from Mr. Newton being a scapegoat, he (Sir Richard) had postponed his prosecution to the last minute.

MR. LABOUCHERE SUSPENDED.

Mr. Labouchere immediately proceeded to refurbish his case after the somewhat rough handling of Sir Richard. He came almost immediately to the Salisbury episode. "I do not believe Lord Salisbury," said Mr. Labouchere, amid cheers from his backers. Mr. Courtney reminded him of the courtesy due to the Upper House and called on him to withdraw this expression. "I repeat it," said Labby, close-lipped and defiant. A precedent quoted by Mr. T. P. O'Connor failed to avert Mr. Labouchere's doom, and in two divisions the supension was confirmed by a majority of 81. Mr. Labouchere withdrew, expressing "my regret that my conscience will not allow me to say that I believe Lord Salisbury."

After Mr. Labouchere's withdrawal, the Radicals, deprived of their leader and chief inspirer, pressed for a postponement of the combat, but Mr. Smith was inexorable. Mr. Morley praised Mr. Labouchere for raising the question, but expressed his opinion that Sir Richard's speech, though it had "certain gaps" in it, had dissipated most of the charges brought against the Government. But he significantly announced that he disagreed with the ruling of the Chairman which had led to Mr. Labouchere's suspension.

Then followed four hours of desultory debate until Mr. Smith applied the closure, and succeeded in rejecting the reduction—but not passing a single Vote. The significance of the evening was the continued connection in the minds of the Opposition speakers between the old rôle of the Government as accusers and their new rôle as accused. The cry of "Pigott, Pigott," was persistent from end to end of the debate.

PORTRAIT-PAINTING IN INDIA.

In opening the first exhibition of the Calcutta Art Society the other day, Lord Lansdowne made some interesting remarks on the opportunities and talent for portrait-painting in India. We take the report of the Viceroy's speech from the *Reis and Rayyet*:—

There is no place in India in which, year after year, a greater number of notable persons is gathered together. High officials, gallant soldiers, great leaders of commercial enterprise, Indian Princes, and gentlemen of high station are all in the habit of resorting annually to Calcutta. Only think what a collection of the portraits of Indian worthies might have been formed, if, in years past, it had been the custom for every distinguished man who came here to have his picture painted! I am disposed to take a very sanguine view of the future of portrait-painting in this country. The art itself, far from being strange to India, is indigenous to the country. No one who has had an opportunity of examining the old Indian drawings and paintings to be found in your museums and collections can have failed to be struck by the extraordinary conscientious character of the human likenesses. It is quite true that the execution is often to our taste hard and unsympathetic, and that the drawing does not accord with modern ideas of Art. The same remark, however, might be made of some of the works of the earlier Dutch and Italian artists. This, at any rate, may be said without fear of contradiction—that your Indian students have displayed a rare power of reproducing upon canvas with correctness and fidelity any object which they have striven to depict.

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SUNDAY TIMES, 2nd MARCH.

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FRED. J. MACAULAY, Secretary.
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